'Even in disaster, there is business' PAGE 3
Guam-based forces facilitate CNMI relief efforts. PAGE 7

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

THE CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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75¢

Muña offered PSS helm

The Board of Education convened yesterday in their Capital Hill office despite the loss of power halfway through.

ERWIN ENCINARES

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

The Board of Education offered yesterday the position of Education commissioner to Glenn Muña, who has been at the helm of the CNMI Public School System for almost a year in an interim capacity.

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Torres votes early

By JON PEREZ
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REPORTER

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres took advantage of early voting and, together with first lady Diann, cast his vote yesterday at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

Torres said he and the first lady made the decision to

See TORRES on Page 4

JON PEREZ

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, left, signs his name before casting his vote while a Commonwealth Elections Commission staff and administrative officer Kyla Igitol look on in yesterday's early voting at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

'Only US citizens will get FEMA cash aid'

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will be providing financial assistance but only to U.S. citizens. Foreign worker families can apply for FEMA aid on behalf of their minor U.S. citizen children.

This was clarified by David Gervino, FEMA incident management assistance teams external affairs officer, at the monthly Saipan Chamber of Commerce meeting last Wednesday.

Although Super Typhoon Yutu impacted CNMI residents from all walks of life, non-U.S. citizens cannot ex-

See FEMA on Page 4

Private companies respond with help

By BEA CABRERA
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CORRESPONDENT

There is a saying that "when someone helps you and they are struggling too, that's not help. That's love."

That seems to be the mantra by which many private companies or employers in the CNMI abide by—they themselves have suffered economic losses from Super Typhoon Yutu, yet they continue to be strong for their employees and the larger CNMI community.

Aside from the efforts of the local government and

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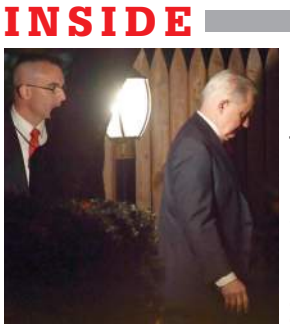

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President Donald Trump fires Attorney General Jeff Sessions.
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The migrants in a caravan seem almost unaware of the results of the U.S. elections.
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Flexible screens are on the horizon for the smartphone market.
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Local

‘CPA board seen to adopt draft accord on divert airfield’

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Ports Authority board expects to adopt in today’s special meeting a draft purchase agreement relating to the U.S. Department of Defense’s proposal to put an alternative landing site—or divert airfield—for the U.S. Air Force on Tinian.

That’s according to airport operations committee chair Barrie C. Toves, who said yesterday that they anticipate the draft purchase agreement will lead to the consummation of the military’s lease of the northern part of the Tinian International Airport.

“Once we adopt that, then there will be signing of it. Representatives [of] the U.S. Department of Defense and CPA chairman will sign the purchase agreement. And that will kick the ball rolling toward the finalization of the lease agreement,” he said.

The CPA board of directors will hold the special meeting today, Friday, at 10:30am in the Office of the Mayor of Tinian and Aguiguan. The only item on the agenda is the divert airfield lease.

The CPA board was supposed to hold a joint committee meeting to discuss the purchase agreement last Oct. 29, then hold a board meeting the following day, Oct. 30, during which directors were planning to disclose their decision on the divert airfield’s plan. The two scheduled meetings were canceled due to Super Typhoon Yutu.

Toves said yesterday that what they are going to discuss today, Friday, is how they are going to proceed because the purchase agreement must be signed first before they act on the lease agreement.

Toves said the Department of Defense must commit to the figures that they agreed upon.

“And there’s some clause on the purchase agreement whereby how to transmit the funding, just to secure the commitment for the purchase of the leased property,” he said.

Toves said they have already reviewed the draft purchase agreement.

“There is no schedule yet for the signing of the lease because the purchase agreement must follow first,” he said. “We want to secure first the agreement for the DOD to commit the funds and then DOD will have to pay certain requirements.”

Toves disclosed that they are offering DOD a 40-year lease.

“We can’t go beyond the 40 years because of the statute that limits the lease to only 40 years,” he said.

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‘Even in disaster, there is business’

By BEA CABRERA
beacabrerasaipan @gmail.com
CORRESPONDENT

Despite the zero arrival of tourists, two popular souvenir shops are not throwing in the towel. In fact, Alex Youn, president of I Love Saipan, believes that there is business even in a time of disaster.

From catering mostly to tourists, I Love Saipan is shifting its focus temporarily to providing for the needs of residents and relief workers.

“We are bringing in several generators…We have 200 generators coming on [Nov.] 15 and another batch on [Nov.] 25 and these were all ordered by local [residents]. We are [now] taking orders for the Dec. 1 shipment,” he said.

I Love Saipan also has relief containers coming from South Korea and the U.S. mainland, with items that target recovery from the typhoon such as mosquito coils, mosquito screen tents, water bottles, thermostats, and power banks.

As for clothing, people after a typhoon don’t need luxury clothing “so we are trying to buy clothes that we can sell from a $1.99 to $3.99,” he added.

ABC Store manager Joyce McCarthy said their business is doing alright despite the decline in the number of tourists. “Some of our associates were affected by the typhoon but, even with that, our store is up and running as we service our local residents and those relief workers from the U.S. mainland and Guam like the military,” she said.

McCarthy said that relief workers and local residents bring in business “because we have drinks, sandwiches, and clothing. Some people think it’s just a tourist souvenir store but it’s actually for everybody,” she added.

It’s not as if they were not affected by the typhoon. Youn said that I Love Saipan closed a few stores Managaha Island and Paseo de Marianas “because we don’t have customers at all.”

He acknowledged that the damage that Super Typhoon Yutu caused was too big for everybody. “Right after the airport closed down, tourist arrival went zero. I don’t know how many are coming thru Guam but at our stores, we don’t see any tourist at all and I’m sure it’s everywhere,” he said.

The company still has hotel stores open at the Hyatt Regency Saipan and Kensington Hotel. “Even though we are not getting customer traffic, we are still open for our employees to have work and continue earning and we try to do business that is related to typhoon recovery,” he added.

Marianas Visitors Authority executive director Chris Concepcion said a marketing campaign is now being formulated that focuses on CNMI’s recovery, called “CNMI is Safe”—a campaign to lure tourists back.

“This intends to inform the market that as soon as the [Francisco C. Ada/]Saipan International Airport resumes full operations, the tourism industry is ready to welcome back visitors from around the world. We are trying to minimize negative coverage of the islands so that we don’t become a taboo destination,” he said.

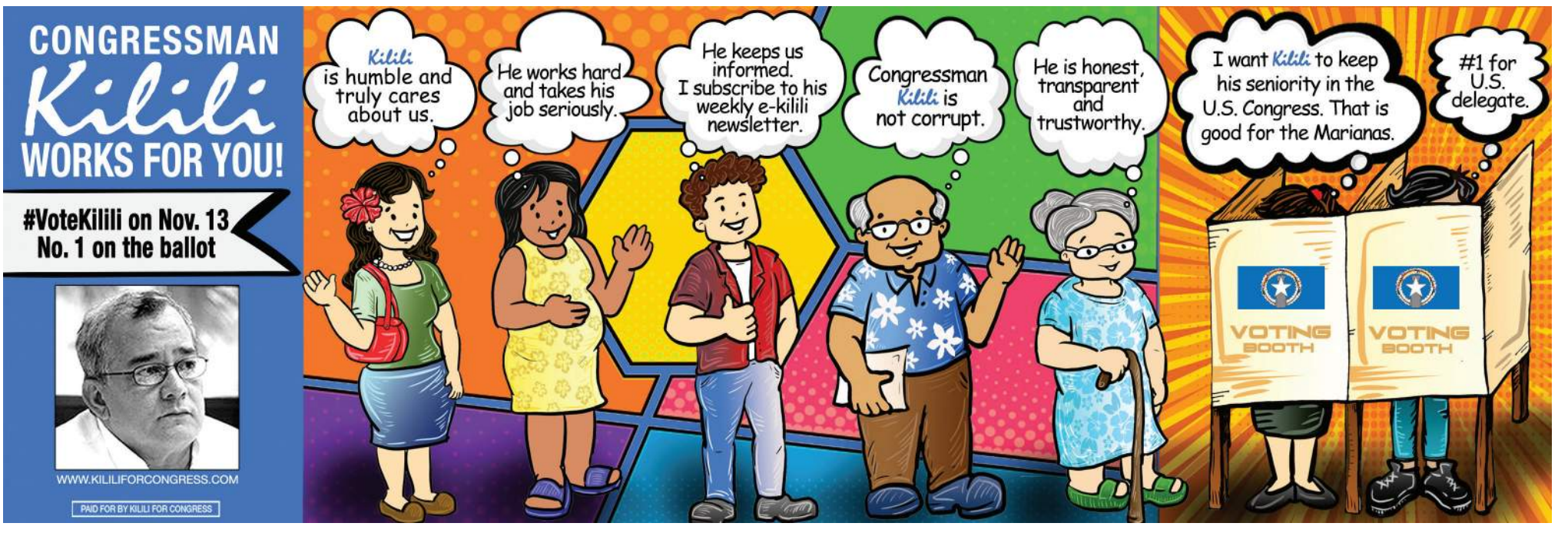
I Love Saipan president Alex Youn said they are open for business. BEA CABRERA

“We may be in a state of disaster but the rest of the world is not, so we cannot afford to be passed over for the next best thing. That’s how this industry works, because if we’re closed and people need to travel, they’ll instantly bypass us and choose a competitor destination to visit. We must avoid that at all costs,” he added.

To expedite rebuilding the CNMI and reclaim its status as a preferred destination in the Pacific, Concepcion said the MVA has been cleaning up some of the tourist sites to get them ready.

“The Marpi site is one of the most visited in the CNMI so it’s important that we get it back to normal quickly. While the airport is operating with severe limitations, we want the community to focus on recovery, regain a sense of normalcy, rebuild their homes and businesses, and get our islands back to the paradise it always has been,” he said.

“…Overall we want to send a positive message out that the CNMI is down but not out. In fact we are recovering faster than anyone expected and should be back to normal in no time,” he added.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YUTU UPDATES

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Water bottles

The CNMI government will be exchanging 5-gallon water bottles for empty or damaged bottles on Saturday, Nov. 10, at the San Antonio basketball court. Residents must bring empty or damaged 5-gallon water bottles to exchange for new bottles. Distribution starts at 3pm, with a limit of one five-gallon water bottle per family.

Relief distribution

The Pentecostal Missionary Church of Christ 4th Watch in San Jose will be hosting a relief distribution on Sunday, Nov. 11, at 12pm. Relief goods are limited and will be distributed to the first 100 people.

Long-term shelter

The CNMI government, in partnership with the Federal Emergency Management Agency, CNMI Public School System, and the American Red Cross, are providing shelter assistance for displaced residents who are currently residing in some of the initial shelters opened since Super Typhoon Yutu.

The CNMI Shelter Relief Program offers a more long-term accommodation for displaced residents who may require more time for recovery and restoration of their personal residence.

Displaced residents who are currently sheltered at Kagman Community Center and Kagman High School will be transported by COTA to the new opening of the Kagman Elementary School facility on Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018, at 1:30pm.

The first round of shelterees being transported to the Kagman Elementary School will begin at 1:30pm. All shelters will be closing their doors by 6:30pm, Saturday evening.

The CNMI Shelter Relief Program will provide power, air conditioning, meal and water distribution daily, and a reliable water supply.

Free transportation accommodation will be provided daily by COTA every two hours from 8am to 4pm from Kagman Elementary School to the villages.

Utilities

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has received reports about federal and local generator tampering, which could affect water services in villages and delay power restoration.

The CNMI community is urged to document or report suspicious activity around federal and local generators to the Department of Public Safety and CUC.

Green waste burning

The Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services has limited the time to burn green waste to Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. Individuals can only burn green waste from 3pm to 5pm on weekdays and 9am to 5pm on Saturday.

Community events

The Make-A-Wish Foundation of Guam and CNMI's "Black Ties & Zories" fundraiser scheduled for today, Nov. 9, is postponed until further notice. A new date will be announced.

Businesses

Effective Nov. 7, 2018, Bank of Guam's Tinian branch reopens and will be operating Monday to Friday 9am-2:30pm; closed Saturday until further notice.

Garapan branch: Monday through Friday, 9am-3pm; Saturday, 9am-1pm

Rota: Normal hours

Chalan Piao Saipan Branch remains closed

Debris removal

The Office of the Governor said it is false that home debris cannot be cleared until a Federal Emergency Management Agency inspector visits the home.

People should not wait for FEMA inspectors before clearing home debris. Debris should be removed as soon as possible.

Before clearing home debris, individuals must take photos or videos of the outside and inside of the building including damaged personal property, and label them by room before removal.

For items like washers, dryers, water heaters, kitchen appliances, TVs and computers, photograph the make, model, and serial number.

For building items, keep samples.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

TORRES

From Page 1

vote early only on Thursday morning—a decision that he said was prompted so could focus on the CNMI's recovery efforts in the wake of Super Typhoon Yutu last month.

Torres and his wife were among the unofficial tally of 2,102 people that have voted early in the past three days.

Torres said that he's pleased to see that people are coming out to vote despite the hardship that everyone is experiencing after Yutu's devastation.

"We continue to see more voters coming in, although the typhoon hit us hard," he said. "We've come back up and have done so much recovery efforts considering what we've been through.

"We definitely encourage our people to come out and vote. Just to exercise your right, as much as we want to get back to normal early."

With his vote now done, Torres said he is ready to go back to helping the recovery efforts. "Diann and I continue to help in the recovery. I want to finish this early vote and take advantage. We want to go back and continue with the recovery efforts."

Torres said that he is also optimistic of the local Republican Party's chances in the elections. "I'm very positive with the progress that we've done behind the Republican Party and with the partnership that we had with the leadership."

"The system that we have here, we can see progress. When our gross domestic product came out in 2016 as the highest and again for 2017, we are consistent with our progress and the economy is growing. We want to continue with that."

He added GOP candidates are respected leaders. "They are not afraid to make the hard decisions. With the decisions we've made, we see progress four years later."

"I'm very hopeful that the community will see the progress that was done and we want to continue with that progress."

He also congratulated the winners in Guam's elections and praised its people for making history, like having the first female governor-elect in the person of former lawmaker Lou Leon Guerrero.

"We see the advances made by Guam. Madeleine Bordallo lost to a young senator [Michael San Nicolas], who is energetic. So, I think our people will also see that here so we could continue with the progress that we have."

MUÑA

From Page 1

The board, led by chair Marylou Ada, offered Muña the permanent position after the BOE meeting yesterday on Capital Hill.

Soon after letting go of education commissioner Cynthia Deleon Guerrero last year, the BOE first appointed Yvonne Pangelinan, the PSS associate commissioner for student and support services, as the PSS chief, before ultimately appointing Muña as interim PSS chief.

According to longtime BOE member and former BOE chair Herman Guerrero, the board voted unanimously to offer Muña the position, which would be for four years.

Guerrero did note that the BOE legal counsel has yet to come up with an official offer letter.

"…We asked the legal counsel to put [in the offer] what the board is recommending and submit it to BOE chairwoman Ada for the terms of the contract," he said.

Guerrero noted that Muña first needs to accept the offer; he noted that Muña did not verbally say during yesterday's meeting if he was going to accept the offer or not.

"…He works well with his [colleagues], so he has the leadership skillsn," Guerrero added.

He noted that the board was prompted to act on the issue because Muña's position as interim PSS chief ended last Wednesday.

"[His appointment as] interim commissioner of education expired, and when that expires…he essentially goes back to his duties as associate commissioner [for administrative services], so there is urgency in the matter," he said.

Saipan Tribune tried to obtain comments from Muña yesterday but he declined to respond.

FEMA

From Page 1

pect financial assistance from the federal government. Gervino said that federal financial assistance will only be available to U.S. citizens or qualified residents.

Gervino told business employers that foreign employees with valid work visas may apply for federal financial assistance through their minor U.S. citizen child.

"If you have employees who have work visas but are not U.S. citizens, if they have a minor child that is a U.S. citizen…they will be able to apply for federal disaster assistance on behalf of that child. They would do that by making the application in the child's name with the child's social security number," he said.

According to Gervino, although FEMA cannot directly provide financial support to non-U.S. citizens, FEMA can provide referrals to other agencies or organizations that also offer disaster assistance.

"If there is no U.S. citizen, or qualified resident in terms of registering for assistance, we are able to provide resource referrals to agencies such as CARE, the American Red Cross, or other volunteer organizations that can provide them assistance," he said.

FEMA continues to encourage individuals affected by Yutu to apply for disaster assistance.

"It is very likely, after the magnitude of this disaster, there will be all sorts of assistance programs available compared to Soudelor, so we really encourage, if you incurred damage, to please apply. …That's why you have all these federal individuals here to get the help you need. …Let us help any way we can," said Gervino.

There are currently 261 FEMA personnel on Saipan and Tinian and there are currently 913 other federal assistance personnel.

FEMA has established a registration intake center by the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library for individuals who are not able to register online or through telephone.

The center is strictly meant for FEMA disaster assistance registration submission.

PRIVATE

From Page 1

federal agencies, private companies have responded and are working the extra mile.

DFS president Marian Aldan-Pierce said that DFS, which runs T Galleria in Garapan, may be an international company but it is also a local business. "We look forward to resuming normal operations… but for now, we remain focused on helping families to rebuild their lives," she said.

Relief measures that DFS has mobilized for staff and residents include shower, laundry facilities, and fresh water supply.

The company set up an online fundraising site and committed to match all donations of DFS employees around the world, with a target of $100,000 in individual pledges. DFS divisions in Southeast Asia and Hawaii to date have contributed $50,000.

"We will do everything we can help the people of Saipan to recover from the effects of Super Typhoon Yutu," promised DFS Group chairman and CEO Ed Brennan.

Last Tuesday, DFS initiated a lagoon cleanup from Oleai Beach to First Hawaiian Bank. Yesterday, they sent a team to Mt. Carmel School to help get classrooms ready for next week's school opening.

Star Water made sure to open on the day after the storm and distributed free drinking water in places like Chalan Kanoa and Dandan. They also distributed 200 tickets for free refills at the Sta. Soledad Parish in Kagman.

Last Thursday, E-Land gave out free water at two of their hotels: Coral Ocean Point and at Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

TanHoldings Corp turned its TSL Sports Complex in Gualo Rai into a temporary shelter, with 31 beds, for employees who lost their homes and had no place to stay after the typhoon.

"Currently, there are a total of 11 families staying at the gym," said TSL Foundation manager Merlie Tolentino.

For other employees seeking shelter, TanHoldings Corp. gave them a chance to avail of a "staycation package"—a four night-stay at the Kanoa Resort—for free.

Last Friday, the company also contributed $10,000 to relief assistance provided by the Philippine Consulate General of Guam.

Bridge Capital LLC provided food to families in shelters. To celebrate Halloween, Bridge Capital employee Neil Fama performed a magic show and distributed candies to children at the Saipan Southern High School shelter.

IT&E gave its data subscribers 50 gigabytes of 4G LTE data for free. They also gave their employees free telecom service until the end of the year.

Calvo's Insurance marketing director Marcia Calvo said they are working with their underwriters and partners in getting supplies to Guam and then to Saipan. "Calvo's Insurance is definitely working on getting supplies on island such as water, pillows, futons, blankets and battery-operated or solar-powered fans. We expect these to arrive end of this week or early next week," she added

Aside from doing outreach with MYPros and the Salvation Army, the focus of Paradise Dental is it its employees, according to Donna Krum. "We had a team lunch last week, trying to get everyone together to give them hope and keep the morale high. On Friday is our third year anniversary and we plan to take them out to a really nice dinner," she added.

Somewhere in Okinawa, Japan, a private citizen who is 10 years old, Haven Taylor Tenorio Magatas, the daughter of Dirk and Monique Tenorio Magatas, was able to raise $170 in a fundraising campaign and bought hygiene supplies such as toothbrush, shampoos and soap that will be given to children at shelters on Saipan.

Other private companies have also extended their help to the community, to their employees and are still rallying to raise funds to help typhoon victims. Others have organized free movie showings, while others gave away food.

Demapan appeals for USCIS empathy

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) is hoping U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services would consider the current situation of the CNMI when it decides on the fate of foreign workers who are under the humanitarian parole program or hold an employment authorization document. Demapan earlier introduced House Joint Resolution 20-13 in a bid to extend the 240-day rule for the more than 2,000 foreign workers that are under the humanitarian parole program or hold EADs.

H.J.R. 20-13 hopes that affected individuals under C.F.R. 274a.12(b)(20) may be allowed to continue working under their previous EADs while the renewals of their documents are being processed.

Demapan said a lot of people were affected by typhoons Mangkhut and Yutu, including foreign workers. "The major impacts from typhoons Mangkhut and Yutu have put a severe strain on the finances of families throughout the Commonwealth, including our guest workers."

Demapan is hopeful that USCIS would hear the plea since many foreign workers have lost their homes and other properties.

"Now, more than ever, our plea for consideration is of utmost importance. Our people are in a state of recovery and the last thing we need now is to unnecessarily separate families when an administrative solution is possible," he said.

Demapan thanked the Senate for also adopting H.J.R. 20-13.

"In line with Gov. Ralph DLG Torres' request, we also ask the U.S. to give the humanitarian-parolee workers some consideration so they may be allowed to continue their employment pending the adjudication and approval of their renewed EADs."

He added that the CNMI did not expect the devastation of the two typhoons, which is why the local government is appealing for consideration.

"We also know that a lot of them have young kids, and they need to eat and get their other daily necessities so we don't want to see them caught in this predicament. This is just an issue of the process which we hope can be changed for humanitarian reasons."

Super Typhoon Yutu leveled the islands of Saipan and Tinian last month, while Typhoon Mangkhut swept through the CNMI's southernmost island of Rota last Sept. 10. ***(Jon Perez)***

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
DFS' "We are DFS" cleanup crew gathers for a group photo after their recent campus cleanup of Mount Carmel School. They gathered in front of the iconic grotto for Mother Mary, which was built 50 years ago by members of the AlumKnight Class of 1968 in the aftermath of Typhoon Jean.

'We are ready'

» Mount Carmel School set to resume classes on Tuesday

This is what Mount Carmel School president Galvin Deleon Guerrero said as the school prepares to resume classes next week Tuesday, Nov. 13.

"All our classrooms and buildings are fully powered with generators, our water tanks are providing running water, we have restored internet connectivity, and we've repaired most of our air conditioners," said Deleon Guerrero. "We look forward to helping our students return to a sense of normalcy."

The efforts were made possible by commitments from Bishop Ryan P. Jimenez, the school's board of directors led by chair Vicente "Ben" Babauta, and the school's leadership team to mobilize all necessary resources to prepare the school.

Two major cleanup efforts were also held by the school involving students, alumni, parents, faculty, staff, and parents.

The school also got help from students and teachers from Grace Christian Academy, Saipan International School, Saipan Southern High School, Marianas High School, Kagman High School and Green Meadows School, as well as members of Marianas Young Professionals. DFS' "We are DFS" cleanup team also spent three hours this past week cleaning classrooms.

Other individuals and organizations have also helped prepare for the reopening of the school with financial contributions and in-kind donations.

The school also acknowledged several contractors who mobilized quickly for repairs, including HBR International Inc., Kautz Glass, Sagittarius Manpower, SeaFix, and Scot Thompson.

The school also expressed appreciation to the CNMI Public School System, whose Childhood Nutrition Program is working with LSG Sky Chefs to continue the school meals program.

Mount Carmel School principal Frances Taimanao, right, met with faculty, staff, and administrators recently to prepare for the reopening the school next week, Nov. 13. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Mount Carmel School secretary Leeani Villagomez inventories portable fans that were donated as part of relief efforts for Super Typhoon Yutu. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Accommodations

The school understands that many families still lack access to power, water, and reliable laundry services and will allow students to dress down for the time being. However, students must still follow the school's dress down policy. In particular, students should wear shoes (no slippers) for safety purposes and no aspect of a student's clothing may call undue attention or contradict the mission and philosophical values of the school.

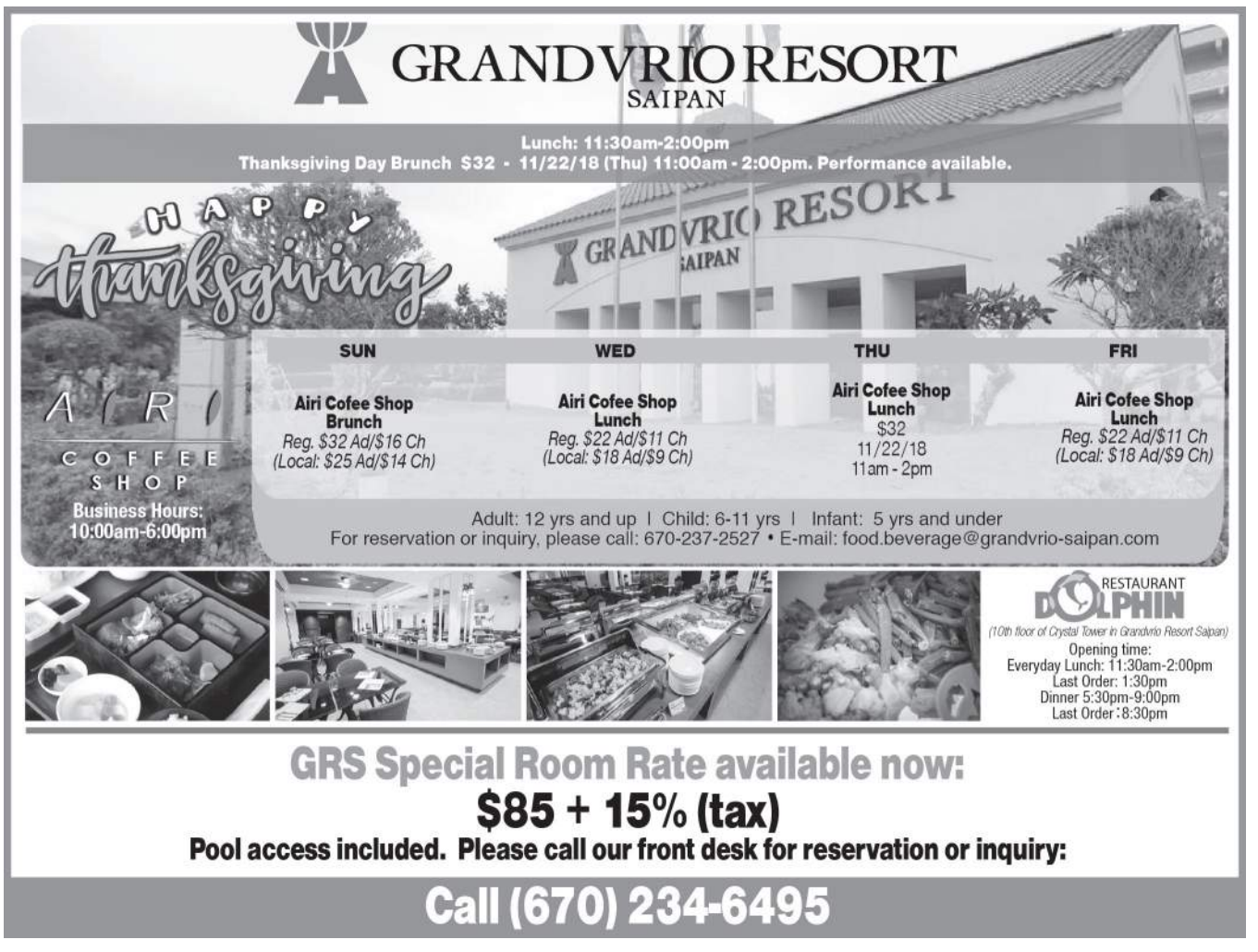
The school will also waive all late fees for tuition through January and will be flexible with parents with a demonstrated need and who are struggling to meet tuition payments.

The school also announced its revised school calendar that will allow the school to end on schedule at the end of May 2019. To make up for days lost to Typhoon Mangkhut and Super Typhoon Yutu, half-day classes will be held on Commonwealth Constitution Day and Holy Thursday, and spring break will be cancelled. The school also announced that it would use Achieve3000 to make up for lost learning time by monitoring student use of the interactive and interdisciplinary online literacy program.

More work remains

Deleon Guerrero noted that much work remains to be done. "We've ensured that the campus is safe and that classrooms are functional, but we still need to rebuild our historic gym and our library, which were completely destroyed by Yutu."

Deleon Guerrero is still hopeful. "Fifty years ago, Fr. Arnold Bendowski and the MMB Sisters pulled our school family together to recover from Typhoon Jean. We can do the same. With faith in God and faith in each other, we will rebuild, brick by brick, book by book. We are Knight strong. We will rise!" ***(PR)***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A carpenter from HBR International Inc. repairs one of the walls damaged during Super Typhoon Yutu. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Guam-based forces facilitate CNMI relief efforts

When Super Typhoon Yutu battered Saipan and Tinian on Oct. 24-25, nearly every building in Yutu's path sustained damage, including the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Its air traffic control tower was rendered inoperable after the windows were blown in and the electronic equipment were exposed to the wind and rain. As the tower underwent temporary repairs, the U.S. Air Force facilitated ground to air communications for the new air bridge between Guam and Saipan.

A temporary communications system has been installed at the tower and air traffic control has been returned to civilian authorities at the airport but a dozen service members remain to coordinate the flow of materials, equipment, and personnel to the CNMI.

Operating on the ground underneath the remains of the passenger loading bridge for Gate 1 is a team of Guam-based airmen who have worked 16-hour shifts since they hit the ground the day after Yutu struck.

To date, the 36th Contingency Response Group, 36th Logistics Readiness Squadron, and 36th Force Support Squadron have been responsible for communication on the apron, aircraft refueling, vehicles maintenance, accountability for Air Force personnel who deplane, offloading aircraft, staging of offloaded supplies and their subsequent loading onto trucks for distribution.

Master Sgt. Jamie Almquist of the 36th CRG explained his team had less than a day to prepare for the relief efforts. "We got the call to prepare for this mission Thursday, Oct. 25, at 11am and went wheels up Friday, Oct. 26, at 6am," he said.

Almquist's team has pulled 14- to 16-hour shifts since they arrived on Saipan. While flight operations are limited to daylight hours, the service members remain after dark to help the Federal Emergency Management Agency load the trucks that take the supplies to the staging areas.

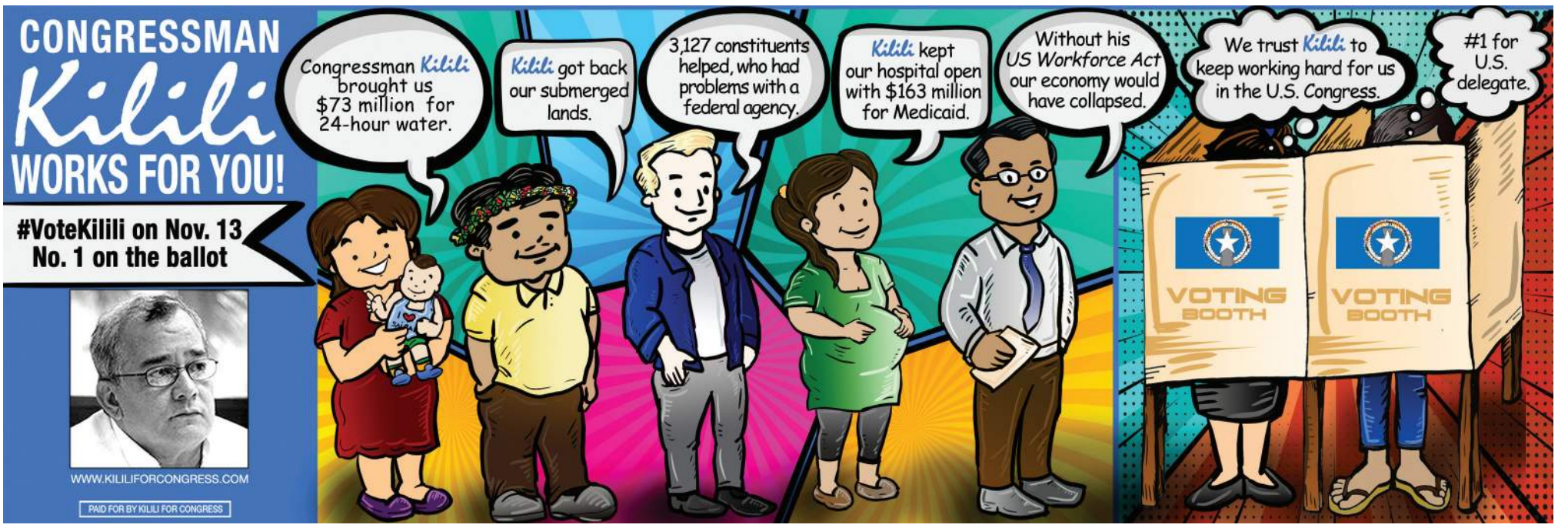
As of Nov. 4, Almquist and his team have processed 619 personnel and 2.2 million lbs of relief materials on 101 flights. These flights consist of a variety of aircraft to include helicopters, C-17 Globemaster IIIs, C-130 TYPE (usually Combat King or Hercules), and cargo versions of the Boeing 747, Antonov and Ilyushin. What has quickly become the busiest airport in Micronesia requires seamless coordination between local and military personnel, especially now that limited commercial operations have resumed on Saipan.

"We're currently working with the Commonwealth Ports Authority Air Operations to de-conflict the military airlift operations from the commercial side," said Almquist. "We maximize ramp space for the supplies and ensure there's ample access to commercial carriers and operations."

All units on the island are here as part of Task Force-West, which was stood up by U.S. Indo- Pacific Command and is responding to the devastation caused by Super Typhoon Yutu, which struck the CNMI on Oct. 24.

According to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Super Typhoon Yutu was the second- strongest system to hit U.S. soil in recorded history.

FEMA-supported recovery efforts began Oct. 25 immediately following the storm. ***(PR)***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HHS activates aid for uninsured citizens needing meds

Uninsured U.S. citizen residents of the CNMI are eligible for no-cost replacements of critical medications lost or damaged by Super Typhoon Yutu.

This relief comes from the Emergency Prescription Assistance Program, managed by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response.

"We are committed to doing everything we can to protect Americans from the potential health impacts of disasters, and Emergency Prescription Assistance Program is one part of that effort," said HHS Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response, Robert Kadlec, M.D. "EPAP provides vital assistance to people without insurance who rely upon certain prescription medicines and equipment to protect their health after disasters. I encourage citizens in Northern Mariana Islands who qualify for this assistance to take advantage of it."

At no cost to uninsured patients, those needing certain prescription medications during an emergency can obtain a 30-day supply at any EPAP participating pharmacy through Nov. 24, 2018.

Most prescription drugs are covered under the program.

Uninsured patients also may use EPAP to replace specific medical supplies or medical equipment, such as canes and walkers, damaged or lost as a direct result of Super Typhoon Yutu or as a secondary result of loss or damage caused while in transit from the emergency site to an emergency shelter.

More than 72,000 pharmacies participate nationwide. All of the pharmacies in the CNMI are open and the following pharmacies on Saipan participate in the EPAP:

- Brabu Pharmacy
- PHI Pharmacy, Navy Hill
- PHI Pharmacy, Joeten Dandan

Emergency Prescription Assistance Program provides an efficient mechanism for enrolled pharmacies to process claims for prescription medication, specific medical supplies, and some forms of durable medical equipment for eligible individuals in a federally identified disaster area.

All pharmacies in the United States are eligible to participate. Pharmacies in the CNMI can call 888-571-8182, toll-free, to be added to the program.

Uninsured CNMI residents affected by Super Typhoon Yutu can call 855-793-7470, to learn if their medication or specific durable medical equipment is covered by EPAP and to find a participating pharmacy or visit_www.phe.gov/epap.

HHS also has personnel from Disaster Medical Assistance Teams and the U.S. Public Health Service Commissioned Corps working alongside local healthcare providers to care for patients at CNMI clinics, shelters and community centers.

In the initial days after the storm, these teams also provided emergency medical care at the hospital on Saipan. In the first two weeks, these personnel have seen more than 2,100 patients, primarily for cleanup related injuries such as lacerations and puncture wounds, and primary care needs.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration has information available to help citizens understand the safe use of medical products, including insulin and devices, exposed to flooding or unsafe water after Super Typhoon Yutu. This information includes the safe use of temperature-sensitive drugs when refrigeration is temporarily unavailable.

The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services has taken measures necessary to give healthcare providers, facilities and suppliers the flexibility needed to provide continued access to care following the catastrophic storm.

CMS temporarily waived or modified certain Medicare and Medicaid requirements. CMS has issued waivers as necessary, and the CMS Regional Office can grant other provider-specific requests for the hospital and other CNMI healthcare facilities.

CMS also worked with the Kidney Community Emergency Response network and dialysis providers to check on the wellbeing of dialysis patients and reschedule their dialysis services at open dialysis facilities.

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration activated its Disaster Distress Helpline, a 24/7, 365-day-a-year, national hotline dedicated to providing immediate crisis counseling. Call 1-800-985-5990 to connect with a trained crisis counselor.

Information on disaster health and HHS actions is available on www.phe.gov/emergency. ***(PR)***

CHCC prioritizes infectious diseases in shelters

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. has been on high alert regarding communicable diseases in shelters due to the lack of proper water sources for hygiene.

According to CHCC Public Health medical director Dr. Phuong Luu, the corporation is working to prevent the spread of communicable diseases, such as diarrhea and others, in shelters.

"We finished shelter outreaches early last week. We went to all 13 shelters, and we have a daily event-based reporting," she said, adding that with the daily reports, CHCC is able to use medical professionals to quickly address a health situation.

"Even one or two cases can spread [throughout the shelter]," she said.

According to Luu, her team was able to respond to reports of head lice, pink eye, diarrhea, and more "right away."

Since then, Luu noted, the corporation has also been holding free medical clinics in villages.

According to Esther Muña, CHCC chief executive officer, CHCC's federal partners were on island even before the typhoon hit Saipan and Tinian.

"We have this great partnership [with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services] and we have been working and trying to make sure that we have the services here [on Saipan], and really trying to make sure that everything is okay," she said.

The main concern now is the lack of water since it poses problems for hygiene. ***(Erwin Encinares)***

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Turnout on first day of early voting: 1,048

Although only a few voted on Tinian on the first day of the seven-day early voting Tuesday, many people chose to vote early on Saipan and Rota, resulting in an overall turnout of 1,048.

The second day of early voting on Saipan last Wednesday slowed down, though.

Commonwealth Election Commission administrative officer Kayla Igitol said that in Tuesday's first day of early voting, 904 cast their votes on Saipan, 30 on Tinian, and 114 on Rota—a total of 1,048.

The first day of the seven-day early voting this year is in contrast to the 2016 midterm election, which saw only 581 early voters.

CEC executive director Julita A. Villagomez said that Wednesday's early voting was slow on Saipan compared to the first day last Tuesday where there was crowding outside the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

"It's not as the same as [Tuesday] where we cannot even breathe. …But then now [Wednesday], we have time to breathe and kind of relax a little bit," Villagomez said.

As of 1pm Wednesday, Villagomez said she's not aware of the early voting trend on Tinian and Rota as they only communicate with CEC officers there at the end of the day.

She encouraged people to avail of the early voting that will end on Nov. 12. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

GAIN sends disaster relief team to Saipan, Tinian

The Guam animal advocacy group called "Guam Animals In Need" has sent a disaster relief team to Saipan and Tinian to assist in recovery efforts following Super Typhoon Yutu.

The team will provide direct care to injured animals, aid with shelter repairs, and conduct damage assessments for the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Additionally, GAIN is delivering 200 lbs of medicine and medical supplies, and two pallets of pet food and animal shelter supplies.

"Thanks to the generosity of a number of individuals and local businesses, we're able to provide much-needed medicine, food, and supplies to help the shelters destroyed by Super Typhoon Yutu," said Alison Hadley, GAIN executive director.

The disaster relief team, which arrived on Monday and will work through the week, consists of Dr. Jonna Swanson (veterinarian visiting from Japan), Hadley, and Samantha Mullen, GAIN spay/neuter program coordinator. Technical assistance is also provided remotely by Disaster Operations specialists from Humane Society International.

"The extent of damage from Super Typhoon Yutu is shocking," said Hadley. "Many animals were injured or killed by the storm, and both animal shelters incurred extreme damage. The road to recovery will be long and difficult."

"We're here because we can help," said Mullen. "It's so moving to see how connected our islands are, and the way the public steps up to support the recovery."

Donations of dog and cat food (dry or wet), as well as other commonly used animal supplies such as kitty litter, can be made at the GAIN animal shelter.

Thanks to the generosity of Triple B Forwarders, GAIN will continue to ship pallets of donated food and supplies to Saipan and Tinian over subsequent months.

GAIN has also created a GoFundMe drive to help purchase much needed vaccines, medicine, and equipment for animal rescue groups and shelters in the CNMI. Go to www.tinyurl.com/yutuhelp or visit GAIN's Facebook page (facebook.com/guamanimals) to donate.

"You can make a big difference in the lives of animals suffering after Yutu," said Mullen. "The super typhoon destroyed so much, but with the public's help, we can help Saipan and Tinian get back on their feet."

The following businesses has made this relief effort possible: Triple B Forwarders, Guam Surgicenter, Animal Medical Clinic, Feathers N' Fins Pet Shop, Micronesia Divers Association, and Triple J Auto Group. ***(PR)***

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IPI assures crane secure; businesses express concern

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Super Typhoon Yutu not only leveled many homes on Saipan and Tinian but its 180mph winds also resulted in one of the construction cranes at the Imperial Pacific Resort construction site leaning slightly.

Among the tourist businesses near the crane are Serenti Hotel and Bubba Gump Shrimp Co., ABC Store, I Love Saipan, and T Galleria. Serenti and Bubba Gump are directly underneath the leaning crane.

When sought for comments, Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC assured that the public's safety is their utmost priority and that they have secured the crane even before the typhoon.

"[IPI] maintains public safety as its utmost priority. The crane has been reinforced and verified by consultants, and safety experts. Crane technicians are expected to arrive and resolve the issue in the coming days," IPI said in a statement to *Saipan Tribune.*

Business owners and employees who declined to be identified have expressed safety concerns about the leaning crane but Saipan Chamber of Commerce president Velma Palacios said their members have yet to inform them about the matter. "I do know there has been a general concern during the past storms on whether the cranes will remain erect."

Public Works Secretary James Ada told *Saipan Tribune* that officials of the Building Safety Code Division had already checked IPI's construction site once the all clear was given, citing also the safety of their personnel.

"We responded to them [IPI] already. IPI will be bringing in their professionals to assess the situation. That is already with [the BSCD] and IPI has already complied with the standards," added Ada.

IPI senior vice president for special projects Viola Alepuyo said in a previous interview that they restrict the use of the cranes during days with strong winds and also not to encroach airspace.

DPW's BSCD and their safety officers monitor the use of the tower cranes and a safety plan must also be in place during the installation of the required seismic brackets and hangers for sprinkler piping. The cranes are not used if it is raining and if there's a strong wind advisory.

Super Typhoon Yutu not only leveled many homes on Saipan and Tinian but its 180mph winds also resulted in one of the construction cranes at the Imperial Pacific Resort construction site leaning slightly.
JON PEREZ

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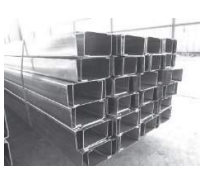
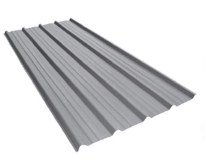

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Office of the Executive Director

EMERGENCY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-19-007

Restoration of Electric Power Distribution System on Saipan Following Super Typhoon Yutu

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced contractors to design, restore and commission (including without limitation all design, engineering, supervision, materials procurement and mobilization, installation, testing, commissioning and handover) of its power distribution system on Saipan as more fully described in the Statement of Work.

The solicitation seeks proposals from legally recognized business entities authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (or which will be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth before execution of the agreement) to restore and rebuild its electric power distribution grid on Saipan.

The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided by email to the interested parties upon request, or may be downloaded from www.cucgov.org/procurement/available-bids-and-rfp/. Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A mandatory Pre-proposal Conference and site survey will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **November 12, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a site survey of the affected areas will be conducted. *Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions and do their own preliminary assessments prior to submitting the proposal.*

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-19-007 : RESTORATION OF ELECTRIC POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ON SAIPAN FOLLOWING SUPER TYPHOON YUTU"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than November 14, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing Proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due in whole or in part to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under any anticipated contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including without limitation any and all excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

Proposers are advised that this project is being procured as an emergency procurement under the authority of the Hon. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres pursuant to 1 CMC §20144 (c) and the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and that ordinary procurement regulations do not apply. Time is of the essence in order to restore power to the people of Saipan. As such, no protests will be entertained.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

CHCC adds typhoon response clinic

With the arrival of a new Disaster Medical Assistance Team, or DMAT, a second satellite clinic in Dandan in the parking lot of the RJ commercial building is now operational. This is directly across the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. and will be open to the public by noon yesterday.

The Dandan Typhoon Response Clinic will be open everyday from 8am to 4:30pm and will run until Nov. 16, 2018. Services offered include limited vaccines, triage, first aid, limited pharmacy, urgent care, and limited public health services such as family planning.

Patients are asked to bring a form of identification and a list of any medications they are on. Patients can also bring in their prescription bottles to show the providers.

The first satellite clinic is in San Antonio.

Also, the Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. had a medical outreach yesterday, Nov. 8, at the Nutrition Assistance Program office in As Lito in the morning and in Kagman near the Brother's Market in the afternoon. ***(PR)***

PH consular mission on Saipan in November

The Philippine Consulate General in Agana, Guam, in coordination with Philippine Honorary Consul to CNMI Glicerio Arago, will conduct a consular outreach mission on Saipan on Nov. 14 to 16, from 8am to 4pm, at the Mt. Carmel Social Hall in Susupe.

Biometrics and personal data capturing for ePassport applications will be done according to schedule. All ePassport applicants are reminded to check the list so that they are aware of their respective schedules.

Those who are on the list of ePassport applicants are reminded to show up at the venue on the date and time indicated in the schedule and wear proper attire (i.e. with collar and sleeves).

For consular services, including passport renewal, that require civil registration documents (e.g. birth certificate and marriage certificate), only documents issued by the Philippine Statistics Authority will be acceptable.

Personal appearance is required for all ePassport applications. For confirmation and clarification, call (670) 233-6293 and ask for Mel Santos or email eppt.pcgagana@gmail-.com. ***(PR)***

Bank of Guam report wins int'l award

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam has been recognized for yet another international award, this time for its 2017 Year in Review report, which highlighted its 45 years of service to the region.

MarCom Awards is an international creative competition that recognizes outstanding achievement by communications, marketing and advertising professionals, and has grown to one of the largest of its kind in the world. Administered and judged by the Association of Marketing and Communication Professionals, the association oversees awards and recognition programs, provides judges and sets standards in excellence.

Bank of Guam has won the following awards in the last two years: American Bankers Association Video Contest (2016) and Mercomm Annual Report Competition (Bronze – 2017). The Bank of Guam is also a four-time local PIKA's Best Bank.

Joaquin Cook, interim president and chief executive officer, said, "Our communications team…continually demonstrate that local talent can successfully produce prize-winning pieces and compete with the best internationally." ***(PR)***

VOTE YES For Retention

JUDGE TERESA KIM-TENORIO

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- **Judge Kim-Tenorio** ascended to the bench on December 2013. She is the Drug Court and Family Court Judge; and is a designated judge in the District Court of the Northern Mariana Islands;
- She earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor and Juris Doctorate degree from the New England School of Law
- She is married to Perry John Pangelinan Tenorio and has four children.

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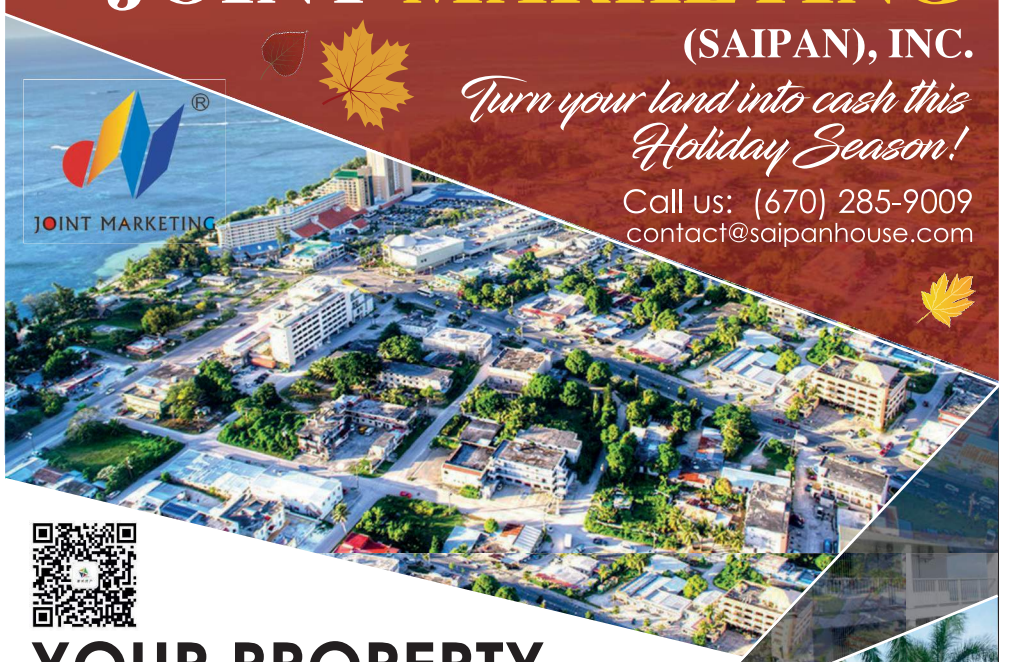

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Opinion

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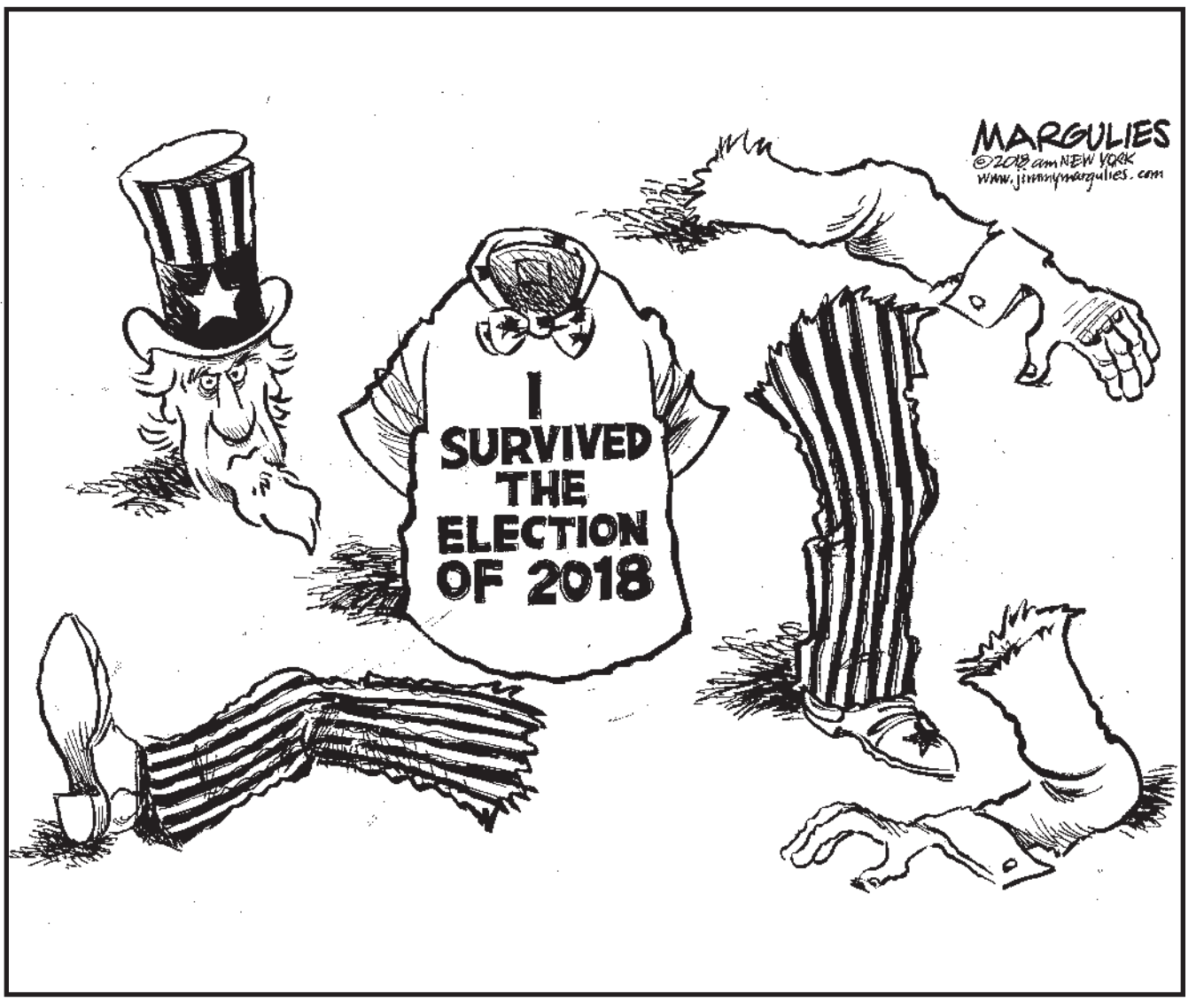

EDITORIAL

Dear Sen. Cruz: Texas gave you a second chance; here's how you should use it

Dear Sen. Cruz,

First, congratulations on winning re-election to the Senate. It's important to us, because it's important to Texas, that you succeed at being the best possible representative we can get, so we wish you well and much success over the next six years.

The road back to Washington wasn't easy, and perhaps that's as it should be. In a democracy, those who would seek power need to earn it through the beating that is our electoral politics.

The dust is settled now, and a clear majority of Texans has determined that you should represent us in the traditions of conservatism that have defined our politics for generations.

We hope that is the way you govern—building legislation that supports a smaller, less costly but effective government that protects our national interests, respects our individual rights and supports all Americans in liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

To do that effectively, we believe you need to take some lessons from this election.

You have to admit, it's unusual politics in Texas for a Republican senator—a person with national standing—to have to fight as hard as you did to retain his seat against a challenger who was all but unknown outside of El Paso a year ago.

But Beto O'Rourke seized on something a lot of Texans felt: That you were less their representative than your own, that you were less about this state than the state of your party and your political future. And that you were less about leading on one of the most critical issues facing our society today—closing national divisions—than you were about serving your own ambitions.

You did yourself no favors by hopping from your first election to the Senate into the race for the presidency. Perhaps this time around, you will give us more of your focus and set aside ambitions for higher office.

There were promising signals of that in this election cycle. You worked on bipartisan legislation on retirement pay for public workers and releasing information on cold cases from the civil rights era. You've also demonstrated greater interest in working more closely with Republican colleagues in ways that suggest you aren't just going to chase your own agenda at the risk of governing effectively.

During this election, you said many times that tone is important. Remember those words as you return to the capital. We need leaders who will stand up against bullying and belittling, especially when it comes from their own party. We also appreciate that you closed out your campaign saying you are proud to be the son of an immigrant.

That is the sort of senator Texans want. That is the sort of senator who is unlikely to face a tough re-election challenge based on the claim that he can't get along with others well enough to do the job.

If this election made you work for your office, that's good.

See SEN. CRUZ on next page

Scholarships and student support

By WALTER V. WENDLER
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Walter V. Wendler is president of West Texas A&M University. His reflections are available at www.walterwendler.com.

As the cost of college attendance continues to escalate, private support through both need- and merit-based scholarships is more important than ever. The sources for private giving available to students continue to multiply. Last year, in federal grant money alone, $2.9 billion was left on the table. With growing concerns regarding college costs, this is difficult to comprehend. Private scholarships unaccounted for, or unclaimed, are impossible to calculate.

The value of scholarship support for students, in spite of those available that are unclaimed, is difficult to calculate. Academic and merit scholarships, as well as first in family scholarships for those students who change the trajectory of a family history by attending and graduating from college, present innumerable opportunities.

Scholarship support may reduce the four in 10 students who enter postsecondary education and do not complete their degrees—ever. A Sallie Mae study shows that students borrowing accounts for 18 percent of the cost of college. Parental borrowing accounts for 9 percent. Parent income and savings account for 27 percent, relatives and friends pay 5 percent, and student income and savings carry 11 percent of the burden—contributing significantly to college costs. From 2010 until 2013 parent support decreased by 35 percent, from $8,752 to $5,727. This is all in addition to the 30 percent of the college tab paid through grants and scholarships.

These facts are important for two reasons. First, families increasingly rely on other parties, public or private, to bear the cost of educating a student. Secondly, this "burden shift" creates greater levels of debt. In addition, lower-income families carry a disproportionate part of this shift of fiscal responsibility. Most alarming in the study is that parents and students alike tend to worry less about the cost of an education as it shifts from personal responsibility to a burden borne by others.

U.S. News reports on the increasing importance of private giving in support of scholarships, and it shows no sign of diminishing. The need for scholarship support is the result of relentlessly increasing costs of a college education and the downhill slide of support from state tax coffers. Moreover, to confound the challenges, higher prices do not always result in a higher quality learning experience. Nearly a decade ago Richard Arum and Josipa Roksa, in Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses, cataloged a decreasing return on investment in a college education. The fiercely deliberated findings created polarized perspectives. No surprise, but as is too often the case, students still hold a bag full of promissory notes and are simultaneously underemployed, according to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The need for increased performance-based scholarships, especially from private sources, are real and the benefits great. Ohio, New York, California and other states are experimenting with a combined approach for low-income families—those with the highest need—with performance-based requirements. This may be the sweet spot in the future of scholarship programs. Enlightened donors may see the advantage that combines need and performance to encourage students to make a serious commitment to their education.

Performance-based scholarships often go directly to students, reinforcing the personal responsibility necessary for successful completion of a college education. This is essentially a "play to get paid" approach. The findings from exploratory studies indicate decreased debt with higher graduation and completion rates. Tying rewards and hard work together creates an equation for success according to Adam Smith's, The Wealth of Nations.

Positive academic outcomes can also accrue to intercollegiate athletes on scholarship. The Center for Disease Control, Harvard and BBC studies confirm exercise and physical activity lead to increased intellectual acuity. NCAA Division I intercollegiate athletics programs number 351 nationally; the other divisions, including community colleges, have a membership of 1,730. Division I programs provide $2.6 billion in awards for scholarships while the balance of the programs contribute about half as much. Of interest, when totaled with other support, Division I schools offer up $5.2 billion, and the remaining athletics programs combined with other forms of

See SCHOLARSHIPS on next page

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Ah, Capella!

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed Stephens Jr. at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

Last week I spotted a light through the windshield. It was a sight that catches me by surprise every year when it comes around again. It was Capella, the bright star that's rising in the northeast nowadays. It's back. Which means that another year has just about slipped away. It's not a year that will be soon forgotten on Saipan, that's for sure.

Capella is rising about one hour after sunset, thereafter remaining in the sky all night.

Capella takes my mind off practical matters, which, for me, start to really accumulate in the fourth quarter because I am an accomplished procrastinator. By early November things look pretty hopeless. That's because they are. So here's what I say: Never give up giving up.

With that in mind, I'll note that Capella's annual re-appearance provides this reminder: We're on the cusp of the calendar where just a little more misfeasance can kick things clear into next year. This provides a clean slate for the remainder of the year, and it does wonders for my holiday frame of mind.

I like to watch Capella rise and then watch Orion follow its rise about 90 minutes later. It's very relaxing.

Capella is one of the brightest stars you can see from Saipan. It's probably No. 6 on the rankings of stars in the night sky if you bothered to make a list, but not all stars are visible all times of year.

I'll confess that Capella attracts my eye more for what it represents (a harbinger of winter and of Orion) than for what it really is on its own merits. I didn't realize that I was giving it short shrift until somebody asked me if Capella is just a single star all by its lonely self up there, or if it might be two or even more stars in a gravitationally-bound system.

That's a good question. I had to look that one up.

As it turns out, Capella is a four-star system. Hey, pretty cool. The main action comes from two super-sized stars that are in extremely close orbit of each other. They're closer together than the distance between the Earth and the sun. Very distant from that cozy twosome are two red-dwarf stars that are orbiting each other. Capella is quite the odd family.

At a distance of 43 light-years, Capella is fairly close to us by stellar standards. For the sake of comparison, the closest star you can see from Earth (besides the sun, of course) is Alpha Centauri, about 4 light-years distant. It's visible from Saipan in the summer, but the vast majority of the U.S. mainland never gets to see it at all.

By contrast, of the most prominent star in the night sky, the most distant I'm aware of, is Deneb, which is about 2,600 light-years away. To be prominent from that vast distance is quite a feat. Deneb outshines our sun by a factor of something like 100,000 times or 200,000 times. The universe is sure an extreme proposition.

Unlike Alpha Centauri, though, Deneb doesn't give Saipan any bragging rights over the mainland. Deneb is part of the famous "southern triangle" and is visible from the mainland as well.

While I'm on a roll here, I'll offer just one more point of comparison for the distance thing. Polaris, also known as the North Star, is about 430 light-years away. It can be seen anywhere in the northern hemisphere.

The southern hemisphere, incidentally, doesn't have a southern star. That's a pretty rotten deal if you're trying to do some basic orientation by the stars. If you're wondering why anybody would ever find themselves in that sort of situation, well, I wound up in that situation when I first worked on the South seas. On a related note, you have probably heard of the Southern Cross. It can be used as a pointer to where the southern star would be if there was one. This is a matter better learned from a book before needing it than having to observe the sky for long enough to figure it out on your own.

But that's a tale for a different time. For now, I take comfort knowing that Capella's arrival is part of a grand rhythm that provides a constant element in life.

By contrast, everything on Earth has a way of changing too quickly. Except for procrastination, that is; some things are so constant they'll probably outlive the stars.

Blue wave came with an undertow for the GOP

By WALTER SHAPIRO
CQ-Roll Call

Walter Shapiro has covered the last 10 presidential campaigns. He is also a fellow at the Brennan Center for Justice at NYU and a lecturer in political science at Yale. Follow him on Twitter @MrWalterShapiro.

It was the most important midterm election since voters repudiated the unsteady hand of Herbert Hoover in responding to the Great Depression. But unlike 1930 when the Democrats garnered more than 50 House seats and gained effective control of the Senate, the electoral verdict last night was far more equivocal.

As anyone who spent last summer at the beach knows, waves come in all sizes. There are gentle waves made for diving seven-year-olds. There are deceptively strong waves that bring with them an undertow. And there are, of course, fierce storm waves that require a response from FEMA.

Republicans, from Donald Trump on down, will dismiss last night's Democratic victories as a wave worthy of a kiddie pool. Already, the early-rising Trump tweeted about "our Big Victory last night." And, in terms of the Senate where at least three and maybe five Democratic incumbents lost, there is a rationale to the Trumpian hyperbole.

But, in truth, the 2018 midterms appear to have brought with them a lasting Democratic undertow.

Looking at the House map from Portland, Maine, to the North Carolina border, only by squinting do you see occasional small splotches of red in places like Long Island. Across the board, Republicans had problems in upmarket, mostly white, congressional districts from Charleston, South Carolina, to Oklahoma City.

The new Democratic House majority —and the almost certain return of Nancy Pelosi as speaker —represents a triumph over gerrymandering. Not too long ago political orthodoxy decreed that the Republicans would control the House until after the 2020 Census because the district lines were so artfully drawn by the GOP after the Democratic wipeout in the 2010 elections.

Instead, the 2018 House elections were a belated vindication of Hillary Clinton's failed 2016 strategy of pitching herself to college-educated suburban Republican women. These women were Clinton's target audience when she maladroitly described half of Trump supporters as "a basket of deplorables" because of their "racist, sexist, homophobic, xenophobic" views.

As Trump in the White House fulfills every dire prophecy about his vitriolic fear mongering, affluent suburbs are increasingly becoming part of the permanent Democratic coalition. Republican incumbents who survived 2018 in districts like Ohio-12 (the Columbus suburbs) and Pennsylvania-1 (Philadelphia suburbs) have reason to be fearful of increased Democratic turnout in the presidential year of 2020.

Trump also tweeted on Wednesday morning "To any of the pundits or talking heads that do not give us proper credit for this great Midterm Election, just remember two words—FAKE NEWS!"

As a pundit fearful of the ire of a press critic like Trump, I will happily give him proper credit for losing the House.

The Democrats faced the most daunting Senate map in memory with only nine GOP-held seats on the ballot. Trump responded with fact-free rallies designed to stoke fear of a dwindling caravan of desperate asylum-seekers hundreds of miles from the U.S. border. And it worked in states like North Dakota, Indiana and Missouri—none of which will be in play in the 2020 presidential election.

That said, Democrats still face a moment of reckoning in understanding Trump's continuing appeal. The president's support level a bit above the 40 percent mark remains impervious to anything less than nuclear weapons. In fact, the Democrats' apparent 8- to 9-point edge in the national House vote lines up neatly with Trump's approval ratings.

A national rebellion against Trump might have elected matinee-idol candidates like Beto O'Rourke in the Texas Senate race and Andrew Gillum in Florida's gubernatorial contest. But demographic change in politics often comes more slowly than the fantasies of hopeful partisans.

When the 116th Congress convenes in January, no one should waste too much time analyzing potential legislation. With a House majority, the Democrats have the power to block any further assaults on Obamacare. But it seems fanciful to believe that a divided Congress will produce anything beyond maintaining the basic housekeeping functions of government.

Since, unlike the Trump-era Republicans, the Democrats remain a big-tent party, Pelosi in normal times might have problems managing her small House majority. But what matters in the new House will be committee chairmanships and subpoena powers rather than floor votes. And when it comes to organizing the House, even a single-vote margin is sufficient.

It is impossible to know whether vigorous investigations of the Trump regime will pay political dividends to the Democrats. But after two years of supine Republican see-no-evil under-sight of the government, the Democrats' ability to deploy the power to probe will restore Congress' constitutional role as an independent branch of government.

With an enhanced Senate majority, Mitch McConnell will have even greater latitude to reshape the federal judiciary with conservative jurists. In fact, by 2020, any member of the right-wing Federalist Society who is not a federal judge will have ample grounds to be embarrassed for being passed over.

At some point, though, those Republicans with a sense of decency and a belief in truth-telling will have to look in the mirror and contemplate the costs of being a Trump congressional enabler. Nothing about the 2018 election should give Republicans the confidence that marching in lockstep with Trump puts them on the right side of history.

But for the moment, the Democrats are entitled to a deep sigh of relief. While it was not an Election Night of candy canes and elves prancing on the Capitol lawn, it was good enough to constrain Donald Trump. And that alone made it the most important midterm since 1930.

SCHOLARSHIPS

From Page 12

support total nearly $6 billion.

Scholarships and financial aid will rarely cover the entire cost of attendance. Combining several sources of support is required, and student employment is one of the best parts of the equation. Working 15 hours per week actually has a slightly positive impact on academic achievement.

In the end, private giving for scholarships is on the rise. Even with increased sticker prices at many colleges and universities, the actual cost to students is going down, if only slightly. This is a recent and welcome change. Private sector support of students in college will continue to make a difference according to the Wall Street Journal.

Higher education is a powerful public/private partnership. Cementing that partnership is scholarship support.

SEN. CRUZ

From Page 12

If it made you rethink how you have governed, that's good. You get to go back to Washington with that sense echoing.

Maybe the next six years will be about what's best for Texas. If they are, that's good.

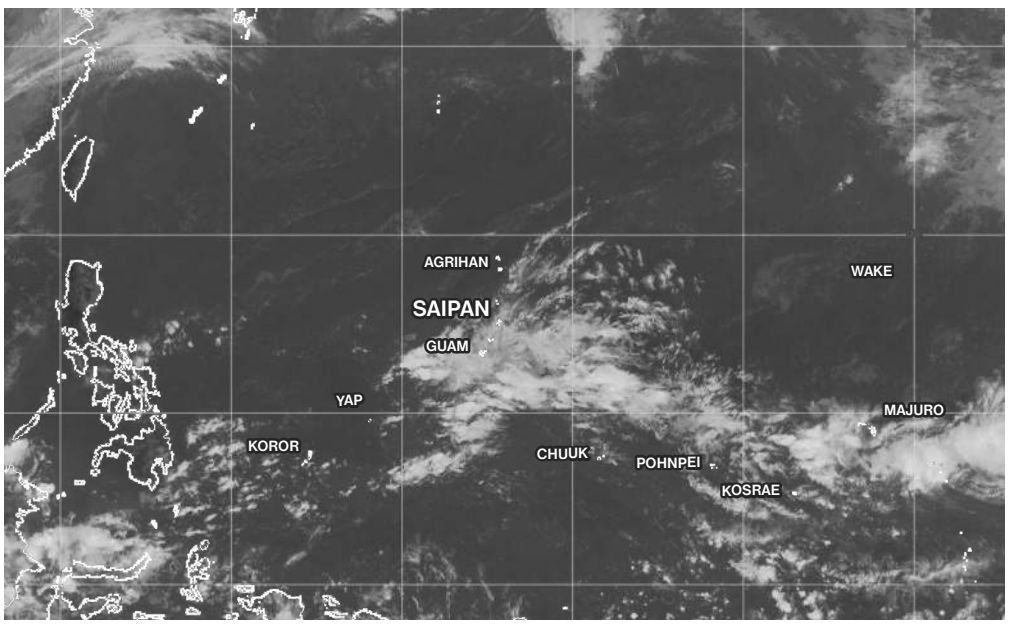
© 2018 The Dallas Morning News

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:05 AM, THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Andersen Air Force Base Doppler weather radar shows scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms to the east of the Marianas...mainly east of Guam and Rota. They are expected to fill in for Tinian and Saipan over the next few hours. A few of the showers are pretty heavy here on Guam this morning. The VAD wind profile indicates east winds of 15 to 25 knots just off the surface increasing to between 30 and 40 knots through the lowest 14 thousand feet of the air. Above this they become variable at 10 to 20 knots. The Ipan buoy reveals east swell of 4 to 6 feet with wind waves of 2 to 3 feet on top of it.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	87° / 80°
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 80°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	87° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	86° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	64° / 54°
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	54° / 32°
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	81° / 73°
Honolulu	Showers	84° / 72°
London	Rain	55° / 50°
Los Angeles	Sunny	80° / 49°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Mostly Sunny	72° / 48°
Miami	Sunny	82° / 75°
New York	Rain	54° / 45°
Osaka	Sunny	70° / 52°
Paris	Mostly Sunny	61° / 50°
Busan	Sunny	66° / 48°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	66° / 52°
Salem	Cloudy	69° / 43°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	68° / 49°
Seoul	Sunny	61° / 36°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	70° / 57°
Washington, DC	Rain	53° / 42°

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- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.net

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
2:35 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.25
9:13 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.93
2:58 PM	LOW TIDE	0.97
7:59 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.91

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:15 AM	5:45 PM
Saturday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Sunday	6:16 AM	5:45 PM
Monday	6:17 AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:17 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	7:23 AM	7:08 PM	-
Saturday	8:17 AM	7:56 PM	-
Sunday	9:10 AM	8:45 PM	-
Monday	10:01 AM	9:34 PM	-
Tuesday	10:50 AM	10:24 PM	-

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2018

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

DEPARTURES			
UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

ARRIVALS			
UA174	7:30am	8:11am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

– temporarily suspended

7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

7C3452	9:35pm	2:00am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3452	10:05pm	2:00am+1	1

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

– ALL FLIGHTS temporarily suspended

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:35am	8:25am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

– ALL FLIGHTS temporarily suspended

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

– temporarily suspended

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

– temporarily suspended

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

– temporarily suspended

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

– temporarily suspended

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	9:15am	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA105/183	6:25pm	9:50pm	2, 4 via GUM

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/174	12:40am	8:11am+1	3, 6 via GUM
PR110/UA174	10:05pm	8:11am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/174	10:30pm	8:11am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UA117/159	9:15am	11:00pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA105/159	6:25pm	11:00pm	2, 4 via GUM

Temporarily suspended:

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
UO43	5:40am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

UA116/174	11:45pm	8:11am+1	2, 4, 6 via GUM
UA116/174	11:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 5 via GUM

Temporarily suspended:

HX07	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

Business

With split Congress, prospect for economic deals looks dim

WASHINGTON (AP)— President Donald Trump floated the idea Wednesday of partnering with the newly Democratic-led House on two ideas that could prove popular with voters: Increasing spending on America's infrastructure and limiting drug prices.

Yet the poisonous atmosphere in Washington, mandated federal spending limits and a potential duel over the government's borrowing authority make it difficult to achieve any deals that would boost economic growth.

Over the next two years, with Democrats controlling the House and Republicans the Senate, most economic and market analysts foresee mainly entrenched gridlock. Many think the two sides will mostly maneuver for public favor while looking toward the 2020 presidential election year.

At a news conference, Trump reiterated his desire to reach some agreement on infrastructure spending — to rebuild roadways, rail stations or airports, for example — among other priorities. But to achieve any real breakthrough, he would have to compromise with Democrats who won office largely by opposing his plans to restrict immigration, his efforts to repeal the Affordable Care Act, his deficit-funded tax cuts and his opposition to gun control in the aftermath of mass shootings.

That said, most economists don't think a stalemate in Congress would necessarily depress growth. The $20 trillion U.S. economy — the world's largest — relies far more on the health of the global economy and the willingness of consumers and businesses to spend rather than on any government actions.

Nor do market analysts think stock prices will suffer. In fact, major stock averages soared Wednesday in the wake of the elections. In part, that's because Tuesday's vote caused no major surprises, in part because the prospect of little or no major congressional initiatives means lawmakers won't stand in the way of a robust U.S. economy.

"While you might see further gridlock if the Democrats take the House, that doesn't mean it would tip the boat and slow growth," said Beth Ann Bovino, chief U.S. economist at S&P Global.

Economists at Bank of America concluded, "We expect a divided government to lead to a legislative log-jam in Washington, DC in the next Congress, limiting policy actions to passing the budget with modest spending increases and raising the debt ceiling."

Trump would still have discretion on some key economic issues. His trade war with China and his drive to reduce regulations are two of them. The president has managed to pursue those priorities without Congress' involvement, though his updated trade agreement with Canada and Mexico would need congressional approval.

But the new Democratic-led House could thwart Trump's plans for more tax cuts, a wall along the border with Mexico and a 5 percent budget cut to Cabinet departments. But the Democrats' own agendas would also likely meet with defeat.

At his news conference, the president suggested that he could work with Democrats on such priorities as boosting infrastructure spending and reducing the costs of prescription drugs. He also said he'd consider raising other tax rates to pay for a middle-class tax cut, though he didn't offer any details.

Yet Trump made clear that if House Democrats pursue him with investigations involving his 2016's connection to Russia or financial ethics allegations, he would drop his willingness to seek cooperation on legislation involving the economy or other issues.

"They can play that game, but we can play it better," the president said.

Still, Trump could be pressured to bargain with the Democrats on two major fiscal issues with consequences for the economy, said Joe Brusuelas, chief economist at the consultancy RSM.

The president would need to increase the government's borrowing capacity — or it would be unable to continue issuing debt and possibly shutter. A 2011 showdown on the debt ceiling led the S&P 500 stock index to plummet and raised fears that the economy could sink into a recession.

"Given the new configuration of power in Washington, the probability of a government shutdown is greater than 50 percent," Brusuelas said.

Second, Trump would need to sign a spending bill for fiscal 2020. Otherwise, previously agreed-upon spending caps would automatically reduce federal expenditures, which would likely slow the economy during a presidential election year.

The economy has enjoyed an acceleration in growth this year — to a gain estimated to be 3 percent. Unemployment is at a five-decade low of 3.7 percent, and employers are posting record-high job openings. The economy's expansion is already the second-longest on record.

Motel 6: $7.6M for guests reported to immigration

PHOENIX (AP)—The national budget chain Motel 6 has agreed to pay up to $7.6 million to Latino guests who say the company's employees shared their private information with immigration officials, according to a proposed settlement filed in federal court.

A federal judge must still approve the proposal filed last week in U.S. District Court in Arizona.

The agreement between Motel 6, which is owned by G6 Hospitality LLC in Carrollton, Texas, and guests represented by the Los Angeles-based Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund, springs from a class-action lawsuit filed in January.

A joint statement released Wednesday by the lodging company and the civil rights group said that when news of the information-sharing practice emerged in September 2017, Motel 6 "launched an investigation and issued a clear directive to all locations nationwide, emphasizing that the practice is prohibited.

"Motel 6 fully recognizes the seriousness of the situation and accepts full responsibility for both compensating those who were harmed and taking the necessary steps to ensure that we protect the privacy of our guests," said the statement provided by Maggie Giddens, G6 Hospitality's managing director of external relations.

Fund president and general counsel Thomas A. Saenz said Wednesday the agreement launches a long process allowing potential class action members to have a say in the case.

Under the proposal, Motel 6 could ultimately pay up to $8.9 million, including reimbursement of legal fees and administrative costs, Saenz said.

"We're very pleased with the settlement because it will provide for future protections and compensation," he said.

The civil rights group alleged that Motel 6 discriminated against Latino customers at two locations in Phoenix by sharing their whereabouts and personal information with U.S. immigration agents who later arrested at least seven guests.

Motel 6 said last year that its Phoenix employees would no longer work with immigration authorities after the Phoenix New Times newspaper reported that workers were providing guests' names to agents.

In a tweet at the time, Motel 6 said: "This was implemented at the local level without the knowledge of senior management."

The Washington state attorney general also sued the chain in January, saying it had violated a state consumer protection law by providing the private information of thousands of guests to immigration agents without a warrant. The attorney general's office in that state began investigating after news reports about the Phoenix case.

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Website: www.developcnmi.com

AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE
November 9, 2018

Due to the devastating effects of Super Typhoon Yutu, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands was declared a major disaster by both CNMI Governor, Ralph Torres and the President of the United States, Donald Trump. In view of this declaration and in hopes to provide relief to CDA clients and debtors, the CDA Board of Directors, on October 30, 2018, approved loan payment deferment of four (4) months, from November 2018 to February 2019. No interest will accrue for the entire one-hundred twenty (120) day period. If borrowers and debtors choose to make payments during the loan deferment period, all payments will be applied to the principal loan balance. Additionally, for loans that are delinquent for more than thirty (30) days, this offer on loan payment deferment will not cure the delinquent amounts owed.

For questions, please contact us by phone, thru email, or visit our offices; contact information follows:

Saipan - CDA Building, Oleai
Tel. Nos.: 234-7145/7146/6293/6245
extensions 305, 307 & 309
Email: m.coleman@developcnmi.com

Tinian - Kings Building
San Jose Village, Tinian
Tel. No. 433-9203
Email: j.sablan@developcnmi.com

Rota - Seven Brothers Building
Songsong Village, Rota
Tel. No. 532-9408
Email: e.manglona@developcnmi.com

CDA encourages all its borrowers and debtors to avail of this offer. The Board of Directors, management and staff are hopeful that this offer will assist its borrowers and debtors recuperate during this difficult time.

/s/ Donnie P. Militante
Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
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AMENDED PUBLIC NOTICE
November 9, 2018

PAYMENT RELIEF TO CDA TENANTS

On Tuesday, October 30, 2018, the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) Board of Directors approved to grant payment relief to all the CDA Tenants; Saipan, Rota & Tinian, who are on the Lease-to-Own with Option to Purchase arrangement and also those who are leasing units at the CDA Building, Oleai, Saipan. Payment relief is for three (3) months for Saipan & Tinian beginning November 2018 up to January 2019. For Rota, one (1) month additional payment relief is granted. The previous relief for Rota due to Typhoon Mangkhut ends December 2018; therefore, payment relief is extended to January 2019.

For questions, please contact us by phone, thru email or visit our offices; contact information follows:

Saipan - CDA Building, Oleai
Tel. Nos.: 234-7145/7146/6293/6245
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Rota - Seven Brothers Building
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Tel. No. 532-9408
Email: e.manglona@developcnmi.com

/s/ Donnie P. Militante
Acting Executive Director

Nation

Sessions pushed out after a year of attacks from Trump

WASHINGTON (AP)—Attorney General Jeff Sessions was pushed out Wednesday after enduring more than a year of blistering and personal attacks from President Donald Trump, who inserted in his place a Republican Party loyalist with authority to oversee the remainder of the special counsel's Russia investigation.

The move has potentially ominous implications for special counsel Robert Mueller's probe given that the new acting attorney general, Matthew Whitaker, until now Sessions' chief of staff, has questioned the inquiry's scope and spoke publicly before joining the Justice Department about ways an attorney general could theoretically stymie the investigation.

Congressional Democrats, concerned about protecting Mueller, called on Whitaker to recuse himself from overseeing the investigation in its final but potentially explosive stages.

That duty has belonged to Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, who appointed Mueller and closely monitors his work.

The resignation, in a one-page letter to Trump, came one day after Republicans lost control of the House of Representatives and was the first of several expected post-midterms Cabinet and White House departures. Though Sessions was an early and prominent campaign backer of Trump, his departure letter lacked effusive praise for the president and made clear the resignation came "at your request."

"Since the day I was honored to be sworn in as attorney general of the United States, I came to work at the Department of Justice every day determined to do my duty and serve my country," Sessions wrote.

The departure was the culmination of a toxic relationship that frayed just weeks into Sessions' tenure, when he stepped aside from the Russia investigation because of his campaign advocacy and following the revelation that he had met twice in 2016 with the Russian ambassador to the U.S.

Trump blamed the recusal for the appointment of Mueller, who took over the Russia investigation two months later and began examining whether Trump's hectoring of Sessions was part of a broader effort to obstruct the probe.

The investigation has so far produced 32 criminal charges and guilty pleas from four former Trump aides. But the work is not done and critical decisions await that could shape the remainder of Trump's presidency.

Mueller's grand jury, for instance, has heard testimony for months about Trump confidant Roger Stone and what advance knowledge he may have had about Russian hacking of Democratic emails. Mueller's team has also been pressing for an interview with Trump. And the department is expected at some point to receive a confidential report of Mueller's findings, though it's unclear how much will be public.

Separately, Justice Department prosecutors in New York secured a guilty plea from Trump's former personal lawyer, Michael Cohen, who said the president directed him to arrange hush-money payments before the 2016 election to two women who said they had sex with Trump.

AP
Jeff Sessions returns to his home in Washington, Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2018.

Midterms offer clues for Trump, Dems in '20 presidential bid

WASHINGTON (AP)—This week's midterm elections offered revealing lessons for both parties as battle lines begin to emerge for the 2020 presidential election.

For Democrats, a string of statewide victories in Rust Belt states opened a potential path back to the White House. But President Donald Trump's Republican Party found strength in critical states that often hold the keys to the presidency.

Perhaps no state offered Democrats more hope than Wisconsin, which shocked the party in 2016 by narrowly falling into Trump's column. Republican Gov. Scott Walker's narrow loss in his bid for a third term left Democrats optimistic they could reclaim Wisconsin along with other traditionally blue states that Trump carried, such as Michigan and Pennsylvania.

"To have Walker lose is a significant turning point that the right candidate in 2020 could win all of these states" across the industrial north, Democratic pollster Paul Maslin, who advised Democratic Sen. Tammy Baldwin's campaign. "If they do, Trump's map starts to get more difficult."

Still, there are plenty of reasons for caution for Democrats. Gains in Wisconsin, Michigan and Pennsylvania were offset by mixed results in Ohio and GOP dominance in electoral powerhouse Florida.

In Ohio, Republicans came out on top in the governor's race and a handful of other statewide offices. The GOP kept their 12-4 majority in the U.S. House delegation.

Ohio Democratic Rep. Tim Ryan, who won another term representing a district that Hillary Clinton won in 2016, called it a "really bad election night" for his party. But he said Democrats were able to win when they focused on "bread-and-butter economic issues," the way he and Sen. Sherrod Brown, who also won re-election Tuesday, did.

"If you're not connecting with the workers, then you're not going to be able to do well," Ryan said in an interview. "Trump connected to the workers. If we don't do that, if we're continuing to be seen as elite and that people are 'deplorables' if they don't vote for us, we're going to have a big problem."

In his victory speech, Brown said his state had provided a "blueprint for America in 2020."

Republicans, though, pointed to Trump's 8-point victory in Ohio in 2016, and the four campaign visits he made to the state, including a southwest Ohio jaunt three weeks before the election. Trump remains very popular in the region, spanning from the politically swing-voting Hamilton County eastward along a string of Ohio River counties that the president carried by more than 30 percentage points.

The area's white and vastly rural profile outside Cincinnati is part of what is expected to keep Ohio from springing back easily for Democrats, Hamilton County Republican Chairman Alex Triantafilou said.

"I think southwest Ohio is becoming more reliably red under President Trump," Triantafilou said. "There's definitely a turnout benefit to talking to conservatives the way Trump has."

There were also warning signs for Democrats in Florida, a perennial swing state that is increasingly delivering victories — however narrow — to the GOP. Republican Ron DeSantis defeated Tallahassee Mayor Andrew Gillum, handing Democrats their third consecutive loss for the Florida governor's mansion. Adding to their trouble was incumbent Democratic Sen. Bill Nelson trailing Republican Rick Scott.

Florida passes amendment to restore felons' voting rights

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP)—Florida added 1.4 million possible voters to the rolls when it passed Amendment 4, a measure restoring the voting rights of felons who have served their sentences. But whether those people register to vote—and which political party they ultimately support—remains to be seen.

"The battle for the hearts and minds for those 1.4 million voters has officially begun," said Neil Volz of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition.

He said about a third of the 1.4 million people affected are African-American. The largest percentage of disenfranchised felons is white, he said.

"Every community is impacted by this," Volz said.

Studies have shown disenfranchisement tends to take more votes from Democratic candidates. Restoration of voting rights for felons in Florida has traditionally been something that Democrats have pushed for and Republicans have resisted, but in today's topsy-turvy political climate, it's unclear what will happen when felons who qualify are able to register to vote on Jan. 8.

"People speculate about the party affiliations, but it's not such a simple thing to gauge," said Marc Mauer, executive director of The Sentencing Project, a group that pushes for sentencing reform.

He noted that a "significant number" of people who cast ballots for Republicans Rick Scott in the Senate race and Ron DeSantis in the governor's race, also voted for Amendment 4.

The issue had widespread support from groups ranging from the NAACP to the Christian Coalition and the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops.

"We won a lot of independent voters and Republican voters," said Howard Simon, Florida director of the American Civil Liberties Union. "You have to focus on not how many votes we got, but the breadth of support."

Convicted sex offenders and those convicted of murder will not be allowed to register to vote. The measure needed 60 percent of the vote Tuesday to pass; it received 64 percent.

"This was not a political vote. It was a vote of love," said Desmond Meade, president of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition, the nonprofit group that organized the drive to put the amendment change on the ballot.

Supporters said the state's current system was too difficult and arbitrary. It required felons to wait at least five years after completing their sentence before they could file a request with the governor and Cabinet—who then considered the requests individually.

Florida has long been considered "ground zero" for disenfranchised felons by voting rights groups.

Of the 6.1 million disenfranchised felons in the U.S., about 1.7 million live in Florida—the most of any state, Mauer said. Only 12 states disenfranchise people for a felony conviction after they've served their sentence, he said.

"I'm thrilled that the people of Florida finally brought the state out of the 19th century and into the 21st century," Simon said.

After Jan. 8, the next hurdle will be persuading folks to register to vote.

Asia

Kim Jong Un slow walks nuke talks, woos SKorean investors

MOUNT KUMGANG, North Korea (AP)—The two-lane highway south from North Korea's Mount Kumgang into and across the Demilitarized Zone is lined by tall green fences and street lamps that are only turned on for special occasions. Children play on a parallel stretch of railroad that hasn't been in regular use since before they were born. Behind a solitary guard stands a sign saying it's 68 kilometers (40 miles) to Sokcho, a town just across the DMZ in South Korea.

Kim

At the height of South Korea's policy of engagement with the North, the "Diamond Mountain Resort" area was a symbol of cooperation. More than 2 million South Korean tourists came to visit and some of the South's biggest corporations poured more than a billion dollars into what they hoped would be a world-class travel destination.

Today it's almost deserted.

A decade after the North-South experiment in cooperation on Kumgang ended in bitter failure, North Korean leader Kim Jong Un and South Korean President Moon Jae-in want to give it another try. By the end of the year they hope to begin working on opening this stretch of road and rail.

The push to jointly develop Kumgang is a direct challenge to Washington's policy of maintaining sanctions and "maximum pressure" until Pyongyang gives up its nuclear arsenal.

Chrystal chandeliers hang from the ceiling of the Kumgangsan Hotel, where a handful of North Korean tourists in Adidas sweatsuits gathers to catch a bus up the mountain. Elaborate murals of mountain scenery cover the walls of its second floor. In the cavernous lobby, there's a souvenir shop, a white concert piano on a stage beside billiard and pingpong tables and a well-stocked bar. There's a theater and a karaoke room.

The hotel is eerily silent, the quiet broken only by the occasional laughter of the local tourists and some scattered Chinese groups.

Built in the 1990s with hundreds of millions of dollars of South Korean investment, mostly from a branch of the Hyundai Group, the resort was in its heyday an oasis of luxury, with conga lines and Filipino lounge bands. Its 10 hotels featured opulent fixtures and oil paintings framed in gold. Guests had the run of an 18-hole golf course, now closed, and a hot springs spa, which remains open and popular with North Koreans. Today, the resort's main role is to be the official venue for reunions of families divided by the 1950-53 Korean War.

The Kumgang project was troubled from its outset, when it opened to South Koreans in 1998.

Visitors from the South were allowed only day trips or visits of a few days. Initially they were brought in by ferry to minimize chances to see the North's countryside or interact with its people. Later, they were allowed in on buses through the DMZ, with the curtains drawn until they had arrived.

The resort drew only a fraction of the 500,000 tourists projected to come annually. Within a few years of its opening, it was hemorrhaging money.

Its fate was sealed in July 2008, when a North Korean soldier shot dead tourist Park Wang-ja, a 53-year-old housewife from Seoul, after she allegedly wandered into a restricted area on a beach on the resort's fringes. Seoul quickly suspended all travel to Kumgang. In 2011, the North announced it was seizing all assets and taking back control of all real estate rights.

The Hyundai affiliate is believed to have lost more than a billion dollars. Its Kumgang office sits padlocked and unoccupied near an arena that once housed a circus.

From their first summit in April, reopening the road and railway across the DMZ to Kumgang has been a top priority for Moon and Kim.

Moon has helped bring Kim out of the cold. He wants to expand economic ties with the North to build trust and defuse tensions, creating conditions for Kim to dismantle his nuclear arsenal. He also hopes to reopen another "Sunshine" era symbol, the jointly operated Kaesong industrial complex on the North's side of the DMZ.

Trump says he's 'in no rush' after NKorea talks postponed

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Donald Trump said Wednesday the U.S. is "in no rush" after talks between his top diplomat and a senior North Korean envoy were postponed, throwing stalled diplomacy over the North's nuclear weapons into further uncertainty.

Trump said the meeting, which had been due to take place on Thursday in New York, would be rescheduled, and that he still expected to hold a second summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un early next year.

Neither side has properly explained why the planned talks between Secretary of State Mike Pompeo and Kim Yong Chol, a key aide of the North Korean leader, were postponed. State Department spokesman Robert Palladino described it as "purely a matter of scheduling" but refused to elaborate. The department said the meeting would take place at an unspecified later date, "when our respective schedules permit." North Korea's propaganda services have not mentioned the meeting.

There's been little diplomatic progress in the five months since the June summit in Singapore where the U.S. and North Korean leaders committed to "denuclearization" of the divided Korean Peninsula. Signs are growing of an impasse over how to achieve that goal. News of the postponement came after North Korea's Foreign Ministry criticized the U.S. on Friday for its continued support of sanctions and hinted it may resume nuclear development.

During a press conference on Wednesday mostly focused on midterm U.S. elections, Trump contended that he had made more progress with North Korea than past administrations, and said that with sanctions still in place, he was not in a hurry to reach a deal with Pyongyang, which has halted nuclear and missile tests for the past year.

"I would love to take the sanctions off, but they have to be responsive too. It's a two-way street. But we're not in any rush at all. There's no rush whatsoever," Trump told reporters at the White House.

In Seoul, South Korean presidential spokesman Kim Eui-kyeom said his government doesn't believe U.S.-North Korea negotiations have completely broken down or "lost their momentum" because of the postponement. Seoul's Foreign Ministry also expressed hope that the U.S. and North Korea can quickly reschedule a high-level meeting.

South Korea's presidential Blue House said the United States had informed it of the talks' postponement in advance. But the Blue House would not reveal the reason for the postponement, referring questions to the State Department.

ASIA BRIEFS

US emergency directive after Boeing jet crash in Indonesia

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration issued an emergency airworthiness directive on how to handle erroneous data from a sensor that investigators believe malfunctioned on a new Boeing jet that plunged into the sea in Indonesia, killing all 189 people on board. The directive gives regulatory weight to Boeing's safety bulletin that it sent to operators of Boeing 737 MAX 8 and MAX 9 planes based on findings from the ongoing Indonesian investigation into the Oct. 29 crash of a Lion Air jet. FAA directives are usually followed by other airline regulators internationally. The FAA said erroneous data from the "angle of attack" sensor, which helps prevent the plane from stalling and diving, could cause flight crew to have difficulty controlling the airplane and lead to "excessive nose-down attitude, significant altitude loss, and possible impact with the terrain." The directive instructs airlines to make specific changes to flight manual procedures for responding to the problem. Boeing's bulletin said it was directing flight crews to existing guidelines.

Malaysia court to resume Kim Jong Nam murder trial on Jan. 7

SHAH ALAM, Malaysia (AP)—A Malaysian court on Wednesday set Jan. 7 for two Southeast Asian women charged with murdering the North Korean leader's half brother to begin their defense, as their lawyers complained that some witnesses were unreachable. A High Court judge in August found there was enough evidence to infer that Indonesian Siti Aisyah and Vietnamese Doan Thi Huong, along with four missing North Korean suspects, had engaged in a "well-planned conspiracy" to kill Kim Jong Nam. The women appeared somber but calm during Wednesday's hearing. The trial had been due to resume Nov. 1 but was postponed after a defense lawyer fell ill. Aisyah's lawyers made a new application to the court to compel prosecutors to provide them with statements that eight witnesses had given to police earlier. Her lawyer, Kulaselvi Sandrasegaram, said they were informed that one of the witnesses, the man who chauffeured Kim to the airport, had died while two Indonesian women who were Aishah's roommates were believed to have returned to their homeland. She said they have only managed to interview two of the witnesses offered by prosecutors, while two others didn't turn up for their appointments and couldn't be contacted. The witness statements taken by police are important in "the interest of justice" and to ensure that what they say to defense lawyers is consistent with what they told police, Sandrasegaram told reporters later.

DIVISION OF COASTAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT
P. O. Box 501304, Saipan MP 96950, Gualo Rai Center, Saipan
TEL. NO. 664-8300 • FAX NO. 664-8315

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
As of November 09, 2018

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. USA Fanter Corp. Ltd.	10/18/2018 SMS-2019-X-003	Hotel	Garapan, Saipan	Major Siting	Under Review*
2. DFS, Saipan Limited	11/01/2018 SMS-90-X-46, Amendment 2019-1	Facade Renovation	Garapan, Saipan	Major Siting	Under Review
3. Pacific Grovel Dev., Ent.	11/02/2018 SPI-2019-X-004	Drydock	Lower Base, Saipan	Ports & Industrial	Approved, 1/06/2018*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

World

Migrants in caravan shrug over US vote, eye change at home

MEXICO CITY (AP)—The migrants in a caravan used by President Donald Trump as a campaign issue were almost universally unaware of the results of the U.S. midterm elections.

The Central Americans were more concerned with the dangers of northern Mexico as they struggled to reach the U.S. border, still hundreds of miles away, than with who controls the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives.

Kenia Johana Hernandez, a 26-year Honduran farmworker, left her country with her 2-year-old daughter because she couldn't afford child care or schooling. Asked if her decision to emigrate had anything to do with the U.S. elections, the answer was a simple, "No."

For her, the caravan was merely a safety measure. "If I had come alone with just my daughter, maybe I wouldn't have even made it this far because it is so dangerous," she said.

Gilberta Raula, 38, from Samala, Guatemala, joined the caravan at the Mexican border because it seemed her best chance to get her 15-year-old daughter out of the country. She left six other children behind, but wants to give her daughter an opportunity to study and work.

She had only the vaguest idea of the issues surrounding Tuesday's U.S. midterms.

What she did know, she said, was that "the U.S. president has acted badly."

"The way we hear it, he doesn't like anybody," she said of Trump. Told that Trump's Republican party had lost control of the U.S. House of Representatives she said, "Ah, good." She, like others, expressed hope that somehow it might help their chances of finding refuge.

AP

Central American migrant play with other colleagues with a bucket of fabrics at the Jesus Martinez stadium in Mexico City, Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2018.

Franklin Martinez, a 46-year-old farmworker from La Esperanza, Honduras, said Wednesday he'd probably stay in Mexico City for a while before setting off again northward, to see if things changed following the U.S. elections.

"Because now it's an anti-immigrant wave," Martinez said. "They're not well-received at the border."

Experts agree that the formation of this latest caravan and the others that have set off for the U.S. border before it have far more to do with politics in Central America and current conditions in Mexico, where drug gangs frequently kidnap migrants to demand ransom from their families in the U.S.

"The first concern is collective security, there is safety in numbers," said Mexican security analyst Alejandro Hope. "There is a political logic to this, but it's not exactly aimed at influencing the U.S. elections."

"It brings pressure on the authorities of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador more than anything else," he said. "This sends a message that there is a human rights crisis in the Northern Triangle of Central America."

That view was shared by former Honduran lawmaker Bartolo Fuentes, who helped formed the caravan of just a few hundred migrants that set out from Honduras on Oct. 13, before growing to as many as 7,000 at its peak. Fuentes told a news conference at the Mexico City stadium where the migrants are staying that the caravan embarrasses the Honduran government "because now the world is seeing the tragedy we live with."

Raul Benitez, a security expert at the National Autonomous University of Mexico, said the Republican losses in the House suggest that Trump tried to use the migrants "politically, to depict the caravan as an invasion, and it didn't work."

Benitez said the caravan has put as much pressure on Mexico as the United States. After the migrants entered, Mexico came under pressure to accelerate the refugee and asylum process for Central Americans.

"The caravan shows that Mexico could give more humanitarian treatment to these people," said Benitez, "that Mexico should treat these people the way Mexico wants the U.S. to treat migrants."

On Wednesday afternoon, Christopher Gascon, the Mexico representative for the International Organization for Migration, estimated there were about 6,000 migrants at the sports complex and maybe another 4,000 in caravans that are working their way through southern Mexico.

But some migrants had been visiting the organization's tent asking about how they can return home.

"They perhaps didn't have a very clear idea of what they faced," Gascon said. He said the first bus leaving Mexico City to take migrants back to their countries was scheduled to depart Wednesday night with 40 to 50 people.

Macron praises WWI general who later collaborated with Nazis

PARIS (AP)—French President Emmanuel Macron waded into controversy Wednesday by praising a general who helped win World War I but became a top Nazi collaborator in World War II—comments that triggered outrage among French Jews.

Marshal Philippe Petain's name appears alongside seven other top military chiefs to be honored this Saturday in a ceremony at the Invalides monument, site of Napoleon's tomb, to mark the centenary of the end of World War 1.

Touring battlefields ahead of a formal commemoration of the Nov. 11, 1918, armistice that ended the war, Macron said Petain was worthy of the honor for his leading role in the World War I victory.

"Marshal Petain was also a great soldier during World War I" even though he made "fatal choices during the Second World War," Macron said in the northern town of Charleville-Mezieres.

The stop was part of a weeklong tour that included Verdun, which Petain defended against a German onslaught.

Petain led the French army to victory in Verdun in 1916, but gained infamy and a conviction for treason for his actions as leader of Vichy France from 1940 to 1944. He is despised for his complicity in the Holocaust.

"I pardon nothing, but I erase nothing of our history," Macron added.

The French presidency later said that only the five top military chiefs who are interred in the Invalides will be individually honored and have their names cited in the ceremony —not including Petain.

Macron will not attend the military ceremony.

The 40-year-old French president, sliding in polls, is gaining a reputation for making awkward or shocking statements. In September he told a young out-of-work gardener that he need only "cross the street" to find a job.

But Wednesday's remarks struck a deep chord in a nation that has lived through two world wars and only in recent decades has acknowledged its collaborationist past.

Former President Jacques Chirac admitted in 1995 that Petain's Vichy government, which collaborated with the Nazis, was the French state. Chirac spoke at the Vel' d'Hiv cycling stadium in Paris, known for a 1942 roundup of French Jews that saw 13,000 people deported to Nazi concentration camps, a third of them children.

France's leading Jewish organization, known by the initials CRIF, issued a searing criticism of Macron's stance.

Hitler in war, Merkel in peace: A train car for history

COMPIEGNE, France (AP)—Adolf Hitler went in wartime for revenge. Angela Merkel plans a pilgrimage in the name of peace. Two German chancellors, with opposite aims and the same destination: a train car in a French forest.

Hitler tried literally to rewrite history in 1940 when the Nazi leader commandeered the dining coach to serve France the same humiliation Germany suffered there on the last day of World War I.

This time, Merkel will have the French president by her side as she visits what remains of the Wagon of Compiegne, the carriage-turned-office where the Allies and Germany signed the armistice on Nov. 11, 1918.

VIDEO: Watch the Movietone news service's post-World War II report on the unusual history of the carriage and its replacement.

An unusual journey took Wagons-Lits Co. carriage 2419D from serving sauteed veal and boeuf bourguignon to passengers in the seaside town of Deauville to serving as a crucible for world peace while stopped in the middle of a forest in Compiegne.

Puzzled tourists often ask Bernard Letemps, the curator of the Armistice Museum, why the Allies signed the cease-fire agreement that ended the atrocities of the Western Front in that humble setting instead of a grand military building or a glittering palace.

At the time, the official headquarters in Senlis of the Allied commander, French Marshal Ferdinand Foch, would have been the expected place to sign a cease-fire.

But the town had endured a brutal German assault. Its inhabitants were taken hostage and its mayor shot in September 1914, before the first Battle of the Marne. How the bruised townspeople would react to the presence of a German delegation, even one coming with the goal of peace, was a serious concern.

"It was out of the question to receive the plenipotentiary Germans in (such a) town," Letemps said.

A moveable train carriage in the nearby Compiegne forest was deemed ideal: The isolated location would deter intruders and the calm and secrecy offered a measure of respect to the defeated Germans.

As it happened, Foch had fitted out a mobile office just the month before—a dining car chosen at random from the French passenger train fleet. And so 2419D became known as the "Wagon of Compiegne."

Off The Wall

NY family thinks bones under home are long-missing father

LAKE GROVE, N.Y. (AP)—A New York family says they've found human bones beneath their basement, and they believe the remains are those of their patriarch who disappeared half a century ago.

Steven Carroll, 61, and his brother Michael Carroll, 57, said their family had tried just about everything to find out what happened to their father, George Carroll, who disappeared in 1961.

The missing man's wife, Dorothy Carroll, who died in 1998, had only told her children that "he went out and just never came back," Michael Carroll told Newsday .

Michael Carroll had bought the house, located in the village of Lake Grove, from his mother in the 1980s. He started excavating a few years ago, in hopes of solving the mystery, but stopped, fearing structural damage.

A sister summoned paranormal investigators, who said there was an "energy" in the home, he said. Other people, including a psychic, felt that George Carroll was somewhere in the basement.

Ground-penetrating radar indicated there was something about 5 feet below the surface.

Michael Carroll's adult sons started their own digging a few months ago. They say they found the bones on Tuesday night.

Investigators will use dental records, if available, and DNA testing in an effort to confirm whether the bones are George Carroll's. That could take months, Suffolk County Chief of Detectives Gerard Gigante said on Thursday. Police don't think Carroll was ever reported missing, but they're scouring old records.

The family may never know how he died, said Steven Carroll, but "...if it is George Carroll, we can now give him a proper burial."

Montana woman rescues wandering llama from Yellowstone park

IDAHO FALLS, Idaho (AP)—A pack llama that escaped from a guided hike in southern Yellowstone National Park in August was rescued by a Montana outfitter last weekend, just days before most of the park's entrances were to close for winter preparations.

"I just had to help him," Susi Huelsmeyer-Sinay with Yellowstone Llamas in Bozeman, Montana, said Friday. "He was abandoned."

Wilderness Ridge Trail Llamas owner Kirstin Baty of Idaho Falls, Idaho, tells the Jackson Hole News & Guide that Ike ran off after guides loosened his halter because it irritated the spot of a previously abscessed tooth.

"Ike slipped out of the halter completely," Baty said, "because he's sneaky, and he knows he can."

It was the second time he'd escaped in the park, but the first foray was less than a couple of weeks in duration, Baty said.

After his August escape, the 12- to 15-year-old, 350-pound llama evaded capture attempts for about a month, including special treats and efforts to lure him in with other llamas.

"A lot of groups were looking for him," said Beau Baty, who owns Wilderness Ridge with his wife. "Rangers were looking for him on their days off. It just pushed him deeper into the backcountry."

They decided to wait until the weather drove Ike out of the backcountry.

In the meantime, park visitors reported seeing some strange wildlife. It was one of those reports that fellow Yellowstone concessionaire Hueslmeyer-Sinay heard about on Oct. 24.

"I contacted the park service and with the blessing of the park service I came to Yellowstone last Sunday to check out Ike and see if I could entice him to come home with me or to leave the park," Hueslmeyer-Sinay told the Post Register of Idaho Falls.

AP

This Sunday, Oct. 28, 2018 photo shows Ike, a pack llama that escaped from a guided hike in Yellowstone National Park in August, seen southwest of Yellowstone Lake.

She brought three llamas and headed to the last known sighting of Ike, near Lewis Lake, southwest of Yellowstone Lake.

"All of a sudden, there he was coming up and greeting the three llamas, who in turn greeted him," she said. "These guys are herd animals. They need their own kind."

She said she turned around with her llamas and Ike followed, eventually getting into a trailer with them for the trip back to Bozeman.

Beau Baty said Ike's rescuer is going to keep him.

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Who steals portable toilets? German court renders verdict

BERLIN (AP)—The portable toilets kept on disappearing—and now a German company knows why. Two men in Germany have been convicted of stealing more than 100 portable toilets. The dpa news agency reported that Duesseldorf district court delivered its verdict Tuesday, giving a 40-year-old man a 10-month suspended sentence and a 28-year-old ex-colleague six months. Both men worked for a waste disposal company from whose premises the toilets—worth nearly 70,000 euros ($79,700) in all—gradually disappeared, a loss that was only discovered a few months later. The men admitted having sold the toilets to a company in the Netherlands via a go-between. Only three of the missing toilets have resurfaced. The defendants lost their jobs.

Woman tries to drive away with North Dakota squad car

DEVILS LAKE, N.D. (AP)—Charges are pending against a 23-year-old woman who police say got into a police car and tried to drive away in northeast North Dakota. KFGO radio reports that police responded to a fight early Sunday in Devils Lake, a city about 160 miles (257 kilometers) northwest of Fargo. When one officer got out of a squad car to investigate, the woman allegedly jumped in, drove the car onto a curb and tried to back up onto the street. Investigators say the officer was able to remove the woman from the vehicle. She was arrested on charges including driving under the influence.

Twins from different parties get different election outcomes

KENTWOOD, Mich. (AP)—Twin sisters who represented different parties when they ran for seats on the same western Michigan county board will not be working side-by-side. Monica Sparks, a Democrat, and her Republican sister, Jessica Ann Tyson, each won their party's nomination for the Kent County Board of Commissioners in August during the Michigan primary election. They ran in different Grand Rapids-area districts for the seats. Unofficial results show Sparks was the top vote-getter Tuesday for her seat, while Tyson finished second in her district. That means Sparks will serve on the board while her sister won't. Sparks has said she decided to run for office when her sister declared her candidacy. They've said they were adopted into a family that taught them to pay attention to government and public affairs.

Surprise: Large alligator found in Kansas City hot tub

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—A Missouri landlord stumbled upon an unwanted house guest while evicting a tenant: a large alligator in a hot tub. The tenant described the 150-pound reptile as "gentle as a puppy" after animal control workers were called to the Kansas City home on Wednesday. The workers also found two boa constrictors and a rabbit. The Kansas City Star reports a specialist removed the alligator, which was at least 6 feet (1.8 meters) long. No one was injured. The tenant, Sean Casey, said he'd owned the alligator for four years and named it Catfish. He called the reptile "a big cuddly lizard." A spokesman for the city's Neighborhood and Housing Services Department says Kansas City doesn't allow homeowners to have alligators. Catfish will be temporarily housed at the Monkey Island Rescue and Sanctuary in nearby Greenwood. The snakes and rabbit were taken to an animal shelter.

Python presents slithery situation at Texas Goodwill store

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP)—A Goodwill worker collecting clothes and other items at a Texas sorting center was surprised to find an albino python clinging to the side of a bin. The python was huddled in a pile of clothes when the worker discovered it Thursday at the center in Fort Worth. Manager James Murphy says it's not clear if the snake slithered away from its owner and was accidentally dropped off or if its donation was intentional. The python had a serpentine journey: It arrived at one of nearly 40 Goodwill donation drop-offs in the area before being transported to the Fort Worth sorting center. Goodwill staffers will care for the python until the owner claims it or a permanent home is found.

Identical twin California sisters give birth 2 hours apart

FRESNO, Calif. (AP)—Identical twins have given birth about two hours apart from each other. The Fresno Bee reports Wednesday that BaoKou Yang went into labor first on Sunday. Shortly after, her sister BaoNhia Yang told her she was experiencing pain and "might be in labor with you." BaoKou gave birth at 6:59 p.m. Sunday. Her sister then delivered at 8:48 p.m. Both gave birth to daughters who almost were the same weight. The identical twins are from a family of 14 children and say they were inseparable growing up in Fresno. The sisters had bet on who would give first but say they never thought it would be so close, since their due dates were two days apart. They say they're excited that their babies will share a birthday just like them.

GOP candidate called 'Bigfoot erotica' devotee wins race

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—Despite being labeled a "devotee of Bigfoot erotica," a Republican candidate won a closely watched congressional race in Virginia. Denver Riggleman won handily over Democrat Leslie Cockburn (COE'-birn) in Tuesday's race for the 5th District. During the campaign, Cockburn leveled an unusual allegation . The former investigative journalist and "60 Minutes" producer said Riggleman was unfit for office after a chapter of a book he authored about Bigfoot was published online. Riggleman said he wrote the book—"The Mating Habits of Bigfoot and Why Women Want Him"—as a joke among friends. Riggleman's win keeps the 5th District in the hands of the GOP. The Air Force veteran and distillery owner announced his candidacy after incumbent Republican Tom Garrett announced he is an alcoholic and ended his re-election bid.

Science & Technology

Smartphone makers bet on foldable screens as next big thing

By MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —For the past few years, the smartphone industry has been searching for a breakthrough to revive a market mired in an innovation lull and a sales slump. A potential catalyst is on the horizon in the form of flexible screens that can be folded in half without breaking.

Samsung and several rivals are preparing to roll out such screens to make devices more versatile for work and pleasure. The foldable screens could increase display space to the size of a mini-tablet, but fold like a wallet so they revert to the size of regular phones. But there are questions about price and durability.

In this photo taken Monday, Nov. 5, 2018, is a FlexPai smartphone with a flexible screen displayed in San Francisco. AP

Justin Denison, SVP of Mobile Product Development, talks about the Infinity Flex Display of a folding smartphone during the keynote address of the Samsung Developer Conference, Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2018, in San Francisco. AP

If the new phones fulfill their makers' ambitions, they will become a leap ahead for an industry whose origins can be traced to the old flip phones that consumers once embraced as cool and convenient. Foldable-screen phones, though, won't need hinges because they have continuous displays that can bend.

In an indication of how difficult it is to make a flexible screen that's also durable, Samsung first announced plans to build a folding-screen phone five years ago. It wasn't until Wednesday, though, that Samsung finally provided a glimpse at what it's been working on.

"We have been living in a world where the size of a screen could only be as large as the device itself," said Justin Denison, Samsung's senior vice president of mobile product marketing. "We have just entered a new dimension."

Except for a fleeting look at a device he held in a hand, Denison provided scant information about the phone. Samsung says it will be ready to hit the market at some point next year.

Smartphone makers are looking for something to excite consumers as they replace phones less often because new models are pricey and aren't that much different from their predecessors beyond slightly better cameras and batteries.

Science Matters
Robot sub for probing ice moon's ocean
A robot submarine has explored under the Antarctic ice,. An underwater drone like it might dive into the ice crust of Jupiter's moon Europa to search for life there.
Europa's ice
A layer of cold water about 60 miles (100 km) thick lies over Europa's rocky center
It's not known how thick the frozen crust is or whether liquid water or slush lies under it
Long cracks cover Europa's surface; some may offer a way through the ice
In 2015, Icefin was lowered through a 12 in. (30 cm) hole, dove 1,600 ft. (500 m) under Antarctica's Ross Ice Shelf and took video of seafloor life
Icefin A robotic research vehicle
Can dive 4,500 ft. (1,500 m) underwater and explore 1.8 miles (3 km) before returning
High-definition cameras
Laser distance ranging
Wide angle sonar
Side scanning camera
Depth sensor
Tests water: Current, salinity, temperature, dissolved oxygen, acidity, clarity, dissolved organics)
•12 ft. (3.5 m) long
• 285 lb. (130 kg)
Unable to use GPS navigation underwater, it watches the distance and direction to seafloor or ice features
Source: Britney Schmidt of Georgia Institute of Technology; NASA
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service
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A drastic way to filter out more spam

Q: I get a lot of spam. Some appears to be from name-brand companies and some seems to come from websites I visit. How can I set my Gmail to only let in e-mail that's from people in my address book?

A: The filters used by Gmail and other e-mail providers already block most of the spam you would normally receive. But you can block more unwanted mail with a drastic type of e-mail filtering available in the free Mozilla Thunderbird e-mail program (look at tinyurl.com/y9qyvrkl).

Thunderbird, which can read your Gmail, is able to filter e-mail so that messages from people in your address book go to your inbox; all other e-mail goes to another folder.

Note: This shuts out everyone who is not a close friend. That may mean that you may miss important e-mail from banks or others.

See tinyurl.com/y7xoklwj for directions on how to set up a Thunderbird mail filter. Then go to the three boxes in the filter menu.

In the first box, select "from" in the drop-down menu, then click the "plus" sign on the far right.

In the next box, use the drop-down menu to choose "isn't in my address book." Click "plus."

In the third box, select "personal address book."

At the bottom of the menu, choose the folder to which unwanted messages will go.

It's possible to do something similar in Gmail, but the results aren't as useful.

Instead of redirecting unwanted mail away from your inbox, Gmail sends mail from people in your address book (called "contacts") to a different folder (see tinyurl.com/y92a4b8f). All other mail ends up in your inbox, which is probably not what you had in mind.

The Thunderbird and Gmail methods aren't a foolproof way to get rid of spam. If an incoming e-mail "spoofs"—or pretends to be from—an e-mail address that's in your address book, you will still see it.

Or, if anyone in your address book has his or her e-mail account hacked, you could receive a bogus e-mail that actually came from that person's account.

Q: Last year I set up a repeating weekly meeting in Google Calendar, but didn't specify an end date. I no longer need this repeating meeting on my calendar, but I can't delete it with a single command. Somehow, it's been converted to a series of individual meetings that I'll have to delete separately until the end of time. What can I do?

A: Normally, recurring events are easily removed from Google calendar by using the delete options: this event only, today's event plus those in the future, or all events.

But if that doesn't work, try these methods one at a time; after each one, try again to delete the repeating meeting.

■ Use a special Google link (see more at tinyurl.com/qg3nwxl) to log in to your Google calendar.

■ Clear the cache and cookies on your web browser (for Google Chrome, see tinyurl.com/ycg59c54).

■ Try using your browser's "private browsing" feature (for Google Chrome, click the three dots at the upper right, then click "new incognito window.") If it works, disable any browser add-on programs one at a time until you find the source of the problem.

■ If you have created a browser bookmark to reach your calendar, delete the bookmark.

TECH Q&A

By STEVE ALEXANDER
Star Tribune (Minneapolis)

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. *Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Life & Style

Midterm coverage was a roller-coaster ride of dips and dives

NEW YORK (AP)—After hours of television commentating, swinging needles on election meters and reams of statistics from obscure counties called up on computer screens, CNN's Jake Tapper had a revelation about Tuesday's midterm elections.

"Actually," he said, "this is pretty much what we thought was going to happen."

The House of Representatives appeared on the brink of switching from Republican to Democratic control. Republicans looked like they would expand their advantage in the Senate. Some close races broke blue, others broke red.

Polls had suggested those results for months. Networks quoted exit polls that showed two-thirds of voters had made up their minds more than a month ago.

Still, for news organizations covering the election Tuesday night, getting to that point was a roller-coaster journey of dips and dives.

Sensing extraordinary interest in the midterms, ABC, CBS and NBC devoted their entire prime-time schedules to monitoring the vote count across the country; most recent midterms had them covering the results for only one hour. Cable news networks gave it wall-to-wall coverage.

As the evening began, there were similarities to the 2016 election and President Donald Trump's surprise win. The cable networks gave attention to late-afternoon exit polls that seemed to indicate this year's vote would be a repudiation of Trump.

There were glum reactions on the set at Fox News Channel. Commentator Steve Hilton said that Trump has had a lot of achievements as president, but it seemed the midterms were becoming a battle of style vs. substance, and style was winning. Laura Ingraham said Democrats are better than Republicans in telling the story of America.

But by around 7 p.m., MSNBC's Rachel Maddow confided that she was feeling a post-traumatic stress disorder reaction to what happened two years ago.

"At some point, the Democratic confidence is going to run up against some real numbers," she said.

Many of President Trump's fans do not participate in polls, and especially won't talk to someone conducting an exit poll, said CBS' Major Garrett. Some of these voters get measured only once, on Election Day, when it really matters, and that has an impact on the predictions, he said.

Maddow's fears were soon realized and, like in 2016, Florida was a bellwether. Democrat Sen. Bill Nelson and gubernatorial candidate Andrew Gillum had jumped to early leads, but results started coming in and they fell behind. On MSNBC, guest James Carville's face looked grey.

"There was some hope the Democrats were going to have a wave election," Carville said. "It's not going to be a wave election. It could be a good election. But I see the chances of a wave dissipating every time I look up at the board."

Later, White House Press Secretary Sarah Huckabee Sanders, wearing a bright red dress and wide smile for an appearance on Fox, cited Carville's words.

It quickly became a common wave, nearly a cliche, across the dial: no blue wave, no tsunami. Election meter needles slipped close to the toss-up range for the House race.

"This is heartbreaking," said CNN's Van Jones, predicting that Democrats would wake up the next morning with the same sense of outrage they've felt for the past two years.

Chris Pine and David Mackenzie reunite for 'Outlaw King'

TORONTO (AP)—If you want to see an exhausted Chris Pine, meet him after he's spent a day answering questions about his penis.

Following the September premiere of David Mackenzie's "Outlaw King," in which Pine stars as the Scottish hero Robert the Bruce, conversation at the Toronto International Film Festival focused largely on Pine's instant of full-frontal nudity in the film. That such a brief moment should arouse such curiosity—and not, say, anything else in the two-plus hours of historical-epic savagery in the 1300s-set film—was for Pine a sad but telling commentary.

"The fact that visions of nudity, genitalia, making love are somehow the main attraction," said an exasperated Pine in an interview alongside Mackenzie. "All of us go 'Oo oo!' like fifth graders. Literally, it's like talking to a bunch of 14 year-olds, whereas beheadings and all that kind of violence we're so inured to that we don't even question it."

The irony is that Pine's Bruce—like his supporting role in Patty Jenkins' "Wonder Woman"—is a negotiation with traditional gender roles, even amid all the blood and guts. Pine plays the 14th century King of Scots, who won Scottish independence from England, not as a one-dimensional warrior but a man riven with internal conflict. Scenes with his wife (played by Florence Pugh) are sensitive and tender.

When it's pointed out that his performance—and even that flash of nudity—seems intended to deconstruct traditional masculine archetypes, Pine immediately brightens.

"I've been dying to talk about this stuff all day and we've gotten just myriad, mind-numbing questions about nonsense," Pine replies. "I do think there needs to be a rebalancing of the world. The underlying bass note that we should be hearing is: That is precisely what we're all used to and isn't it kind of interesting that it's so skewed that way, that any notions of tenderness or lovemaking on screen becomes uncomfortable? I think that's probably the masculine and the feminine out of whack in this big, wide universe."

"Outlaw King," which debuts on Netflix and in select theaters Friday, is the streaming service's first big swing at that classic big-screen thing: the historical epic. It reunites Pine with Mackenzie two years after "Hell or High Water," a high-water mark for both the Scottish filmmaker and for Pine, who calls the Oscar-nominated neo-Western "one of my most cherished experiences making anything."

AP

In this Sept. 7, 2018 photo, David Mackenzie, right, director of the film "Outlaw King," and actor Chris Pine pose during the Toronto Film Festival at the Shangri-La Hotel in Toronto.

White House suspends CNN's Acosta after Trump confrontation

AP

President Donald Trump watches as a White House aide takes away a microphone from CNN journalist Jim Acosta during a news conference in the East Room of the White House, Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2018, in Washington.

NEW YORK (AP)—The White House on Wednesday suspended the press pass of CNN correspondent Jim Acosta after he and President Donald Trump had a heated confrontation during a news conference.

They began sparring after Acosta asked Trump about the caravan of migrants heading from Latin America to the southern U.S. border. When Acosta tried to follow up with another question, Trump said, "That's enough!" and a female White House aide unsuccessfully tried to grab the microphone from Acosta.

White House press secretary Sarah Sanders released a statement accusing Acosta of "placing his hands on a young woman just trying to do her job as a White House intern," calling it "absolutely unacceptable."

The interaction between Acosta and the intern was brief, and Acosta appeared to brush her arm as she reached for the microphone and he tried to hold onto it. "Pardon me, ma'am," he told her.

Acosta tweeted that Sanders' statement that he put his hands on the aide was "a lie."

CNN said in a statement that the White House revoked Acosta's press pass out of "retaliation for his challenging questions" Wednesday, and the network accused Sanders of lying about Acosta's actions.

President Donald Trump sparred with reporters at his post-election news conference, ordering several to sit down and telling another he's a "rude, terrible" person. (Nov. 7)

"(Sanders) provided fraudulent accusations and cited an incident that never happened. This unprecedented decision is a threat to our democracy and the country deserves better," CNN said. "Jim Acosta has our full support."

Journalists assigned to cover the White House apply for passes that allow them daily access to press areas in the West Wing. White House staffers decide whether journalists are eligible, though the Secret Service determines whether their applications are approved.

The post-midterm election news conference marked a new low in the president's relationship with journalists.

"It's such a hostile media," Trump said after ordering reporter April Ryan of the American Urban Radio Networks to sit down when she tried to ask him a question.

The president complained that the media did not cover the humming economy and was responsible for much of the country's divided politics. He said, "I can do something fantastic, and they make it look not good."

His exchanges with CNN's Acosta and NBC News' Peter Alexander turned bitterly personal, unusual even for a forum where the nature of their jobs often put presidents and the press at odds.

"I came in here as a nice person wanting to answer questions, and I had people jumping out of their seats screaming questions at me," said Trump, who talked for nearly 90 minutes despite the run-ins with reporters.

Acosta asked Trump why the caravan of migrants was emphasized as an issue in the just-concluded midterm races, and he questioned Trump's reference to the caravan as an invasion.

Nielsen says 36.1 million people watched midterm returns

NEW YORK (AP)—There was a good election turnout on television, too.

The Nielsen company said Wednesday that 36.1 million people watched midterm election results on TV, a whopping 59 percent increase over the last midterms in 2014. For the last midterm election during Barack Obama's presidency, an estimated 22.7 million people watched the counting.

Nielsen said it was the largest midterm election audience dating back to 2002.

Fox News Channel led the way with 7.78 million viewers. Not only did Fox have the biggest audience, it made the boldest move of any network in declaring that Democrats would take control of the House of Representatives far ahead of its rivals, and its election team proved to be correct.

NBC was second with an average of 5.69 million viewers in prime time. ABC had 5.26 million, CNN had 5.07 million, MSNBC had 4.75 million and CBS had 3.86 million, Nielsen said.

The broadcast networks sensed the interest, providing three hours of coverage, up from one hour in prime time during the more recent midterms.

Bryan Cranston confirms 'Breaking Bad' movie in development

NEW YORK (AP)—Bryan Cranston has confirmed that a "Breaking Bad" movie is in development, though he's not sure he's in it.

Following reports that "Breaking Bad" creator Vince Gilligan is prepping a two-hour movie connected to the AMC series, Cranston on Wednesday called into the sports talk radio show "The Dan Patrick Show" and confirmed the project is indeed in the works.

Cranston said he hasn't yet read the script and that his character, Walter White, may not even be in it. Cranston said he would "absolutely" return to the character if he was in it.

The two-hour spinoff is set to begin shooting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in mid-November under the code name "Greenbrier."

Gilligan's "Breaking Bad" prequel series "Better Call Saul" last month concluded its fourth season.

Doing it H.E.R. way: singer rises as focus remains on music

NEW YORK (AP)—When Gabi Wilson is H.E.R.—her R&B singer stage name—she is usually rocking big hair and big sunglasses, rarely showing her full face to her fans.

The point is to give the public one simple thing to focus on: the music.

But other days, her hair is pulled into a ponytail or a bun and her face is clear, like the time she was being driven in an Uber with a friend and "Best Part," her Top 5 R&B hit, came on the radio.

"I love that song 'Best Part,'" H.E.R. recalled the driver saying, adding that he was in his late '60s. "It reminds me of my wife."

"I wanted to cry," she added. "It was so special."

That anonymity proved two things for the singer: Her choice to release music without giving too much detail about her life worked, and her fanbase is not just made up of teenagers who mainly consume music through streaming—R&B purists love her, too.

Since Sony's RCA Records announced H.E.R. mysteriously in 2016, she has become a rising R&B star, achieving success on the road, on streaming services, the charts and even at awards shows.

AP

In this Aug. 13, 2018 photo, R&B singer Gabi Wilson, better known as H.E.R., poses for a portrait in New York.

Songs like "Best Part," "Focus" and "Losing" perfectly blend the alternative R&B sound that's popular today with the traditional R&B sound that some feel is missing from the contemporary music scene.

Her first two EPs—"H.E.R., Vol. 1" and "H.E.R., Vol. 2"—gave her an immediate fan base thanks to the songs' honest lyrics and vibey melodies, as she sang about complicated relationships and love lapses. Most people wouldn't think she just turned 21 months ago.

"The way that I released the music did exactly what I wanted it to, which was make people just listen to the music," said H.E.R., which stands for "Having Everything Revealed." "(And) just listen to the message for what it is because we tend to listen with our eyes sometimes. Sometimes it's all about hype, and I didn't want hype. ...I don't want people to love my music because of what I look like or who I know or whatever."

"I feel like maybe some people wouldn't have accepted the music if they knew I was 19," said H.E.R., who was that age when her first EP dropped. "Some people, they make these assumptions before they even listen to the music."

"Vol. 1," her seven-song set, was named iTunes' R&B album of 2016. She earned a nomination for best new artist at the 2017 Soul Train Awards. And she opened on tour for Bryson Tiller and completed her first headlining tour.

But this year, she reached the Top 10 of the R&B charts with "Could've Been," the gold-selling "Focus" and the platinum hit "Best Part," a duet with Daniel Caesar. She earned a whopping seven nominations at the upcoming Soul Train Awards, making her the most nominated act. And she opened on the road for Chris Brown and will launch her second headlining tour on Saturday in Atlanta.

She is Apple Music's latest "Up Next" artist and ranks sixth among R&B acts on the streaming platform. Her success has been so major that a male singer has copied her likeness and released songs under the name H.I.M.

Call her a dame: Emma Thompson gets top British award

LONDON (AP)—Oscar-winning actress Emma Thompson has received one of Britain's highest awards from Prince William—and thought about giving him a kiss at the Buckingham Palace ceremony.

Thompson received a damehood on Wednesday in recognition for her splendid career, an event made special by the fact that it was given to her by William, a longtime friend.

"I love Prince William. I've known him since he was little, and we just sniggered at each other," she says. "I said, 'I can't kiss you, can I?' And he said, 'No don't'!"

Thompson was named for the female equivalent of a knighthood in the Queen's Birthday Honors List in June.

She plans to use the honor to focus attention on the plight of poor children who don't get adequate food during school holidays.

Daughter given everything gives heartache in return

DEAR ABBY: Ever since high school, our adult daughter has had mood swings. My wife and I thought she'd grow out of it as she matured, but she hasn't. At her request we sent her to a university far away, and we were proud that she earned her bachelor's degree. We thought independent living would do the trick, but her personality and behavior toward us didn't change.

She's an only child, and we spoiled her—bought her cars and paid for college. I asked her to try for scholarships to help us out, but she didn't. She married and had two wonderful kids, but her mood swings persist. When I mentioned she see a counselor or therapist as a way to get some third-party advice and sort things out, she hit the ceiling and told me I was the one who needs therapy. Then she brought up my flaws and my past drinking problem. Granted, I have made mistakes, and I'm not perfect, but I've learned and grown.

After 10 years she divorced her husband. She got custody of the kids and the house. Her divorce cost us a great deal of money. Her authoritative and moody behavior is affecting our grandchildren.

I love my daughter very much and always have. If you were in my shoes, Abby, what would you do for a more healthy and loving relationship for all involved?

STILL HER DAD IN FLORIDA

DEAR DAD: I would look back and examine all the things I did to foster her behavior. An example would be paying for her divorce. Then I would stop doing them and not resume until she agreed to consult a psychotherapist about her mood swings. Don't do it for her or for yourself. Do it for the sake of your grandchildren.

DEAR ABBY: Before I met my boyfriend of eight months, I planned a 10-day Japan vacation for next year with my best guy friend, "J." We have been friends for eight years, and have never had any romantic interest in each other. Both of us want to visit Japan because it's on our bucket list.

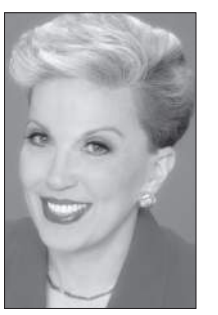
J and I were both single when we started making plans. Then I met my boyfriend. My boyfriend knew from the beginning that this trip was going to happen next year. Because the date wasn't "set in stone" or paid for until recently, my boyfriend thinks I should have called it off. He says I'm making the trip and my friend a higher priority than him, and his feelings are hurt. He said if I was going with a female friend he wouldn't care.

I still want to take the trip. I feel canceling would be betraying my friend J. Am I being a bad girlfriend?

TRIPPED UP IN THE EAST

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

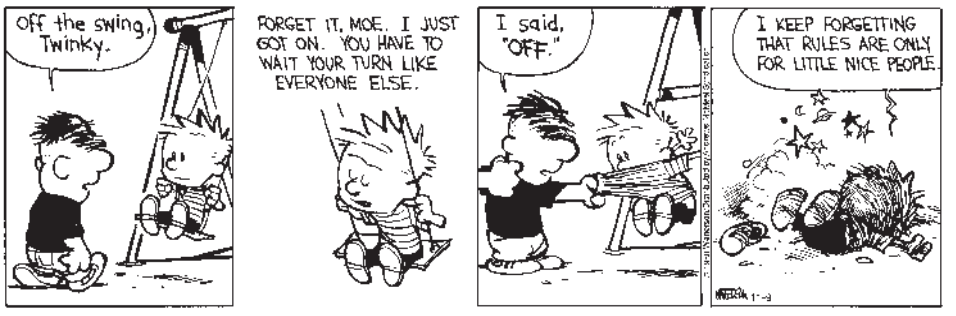
DEAR TRIPPED UP: A "bad" girlfriend? No. An independent one, yes. You say your boyfriend has known about this from the beginning, so this wasn't a surprise to him. If he was more secure about himself and your relationship, he would know that J isn't a threat. Not only should you take the trip, you should also use the time away to decide if you want a life partner as insecure as your boyfriend appears to be.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

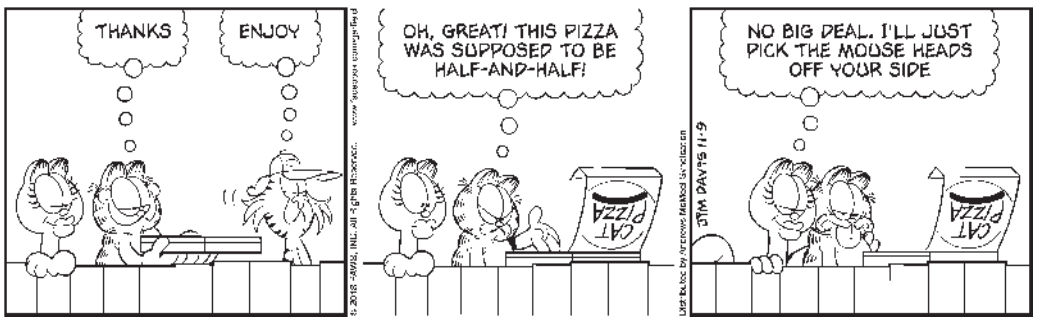
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson


Off the swing, Twinky.
FORGET IT, MOE. I JUST GOT ON. YOU HAVE TO WAIT YOUR TURN LIKE EVERYONE ELSE.
I said, "OFF."
I KEEP FORGETTING THAT RULES ARE ONLY FOR LITTLE NICE PEOPLE.

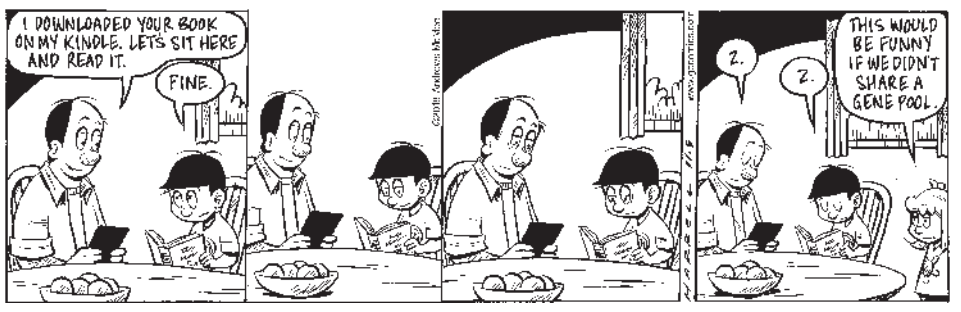
Garfield®

By Jim Davis


THANKS
ENJOY
OH, GREAT! THIS PIZZA WAS SUPPOSED TO BE HALF-AND-HALF!
NO BIG DEAL. I'LL JUST PICK THE MOUSE HEADS OFF YOUR SIDE
CAT PIZZA
JIM DAVIS 11-9

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CANINE HEALTH IS VERY IMPORTANT.
DO YOU GO ON REGULAR WALKS WITH YOUR OWNER?
NO, BUT WE DRIVE TOGETHER TO THE QUICK-MART TO GET A 6-PACK AND CANDY BARS.
TSK TSK.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

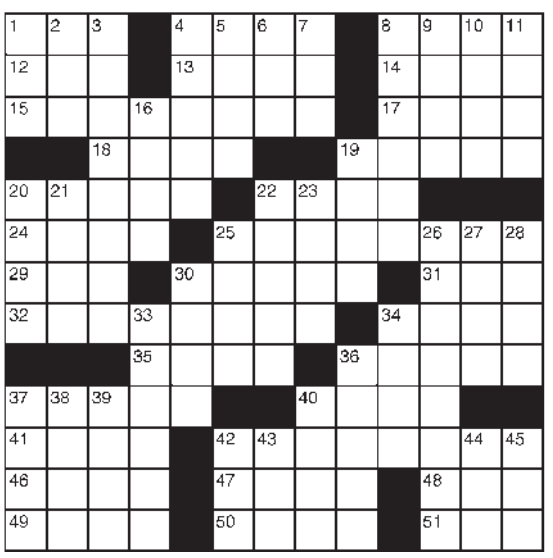
ACROSS
1 Potential syrup
4 Flair
8 Ark builder
12 Ms. Thurman
13 Forum wear
14 Rocker — Pop
15 Brochure
17 Abound
18 Motel amenity
19 12-year-old, for one
20 Bridge fees
22 Roman 202
24 Love god
25 Knight's glove
29 Fellow
30 Slugger Bonds
31 Bat wood
32 Blood bit
34 — B'rith
35 Maintained
36 Concentrate (on)
37 Stopped lying?
40 Medicinal plant
41 Grad
42 Bedspread
46 Belgrade resident
47 New York canal
48 Acapulco gold
49 Coop group
50 Endure
51 Light brown

DOWN
1 Dine
2 "I — Rock"
3 Spanish city where the bulls run
4 Group character
5 Lounge
6 Candle count
7 Rebel Turner
8 Boob
9 Curved molding
10 Screenwriter James
11 Church song
16 D.C. insiders
19 Itsy-bitsy
20 Office part-timer
21 Spoken
22 Gave a darn
23 Brusque
25 Chutzpah
26 Guinevere's lover
27 Jacob's twin
28 Not that
30 Pager sound
33 All — (clumsy)
34 Rude dude
36 Swift
37 Obi
38 Out of the storm
39 Rotate
40 Hertz rival
42 Cartoon frame
43 Mouths (Lat.)
44 Historic period
45 Great weight

Solution time: 25 mins.

P	F	R	U		G	A	M		S	P	I	T		
S	T	F	M		O	V	A		U	R	S	A		
S	T	A	R		R	A	R		G	I	R	D		
T	F	R	F	S	A		I	M	A	M				
				R	O	D	A	N	D	R	F	E	I	
N	A	S	T	Y		B	A	S		R	C	A		
O	N	T	O		A	B	S		R	I	O	T		
S	T	A		D	U	F		S	A	B	I	F		
Y	I	N	A	N	D	Y	A	N	G					
		F	R	A	U		C	C	T	T	O	N		
S	H	O	O		B	A	H		I	C	W	A		
H	A	R	M		O	N	O		M	C	L	T		
E	D	D	A		N	E	O		E	L	S	E		

Yesterday's answer 11-9



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Nick Lachey, 45; Eric Dane, 46; Susan Tedeschi, 48; Lou Ferrigno, 67.

Happy Birthday: Take a closer look at your living arrangements and consider what would make you feel more at home and at ease. An innovative approach to the way you run your household, handle your money or earn your living should be put into play. Reducing your overhead will be necessary if you want to set your plans in motion. Your numbers are 6, 13, 21, 23, 28, 36, 45.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Speak up if you want something. Looking out for your best interests will be necessary when dealing with money matters, contracts and personal relationships. A positive attitude will change your life and your status. Make plans with someone you love. ✪✪✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Take your time and be precise if you want to avoid being misinterpreted. Knowing what you want and making your demands clear will help you avoid a loss. Your past experience will come in handy when dealing with others. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Consider what you want, and lay out a strategy that will help you achieve your goal. Whether it's a personal change or one that has to do with professional interests, what you do now will enhance your progress. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Look at your options and take the road less traveled. Being innovative and unique will help you gain momentum and attract favorable attention. Don't take a risk when it comes to physical challenges. Protect against injury and illness. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Look for any opportunity to participate in events that interest you. The people you meet will share ideas that will help you develop the changes that will encourage personal or professional growth. Romance is in the stars. ✪✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Be careful whom you trust and tell your secrets to. An emotional matter will get blown out of proportion if you let others meddle in your affairs. Focus on stabilizing your situation and gaining respect. Avoid indulgent behavior. ✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Discuss personal matters with a close friend or relative. The insight you get from your discussion will help you understand your current situation better. Don't let anyone pressure you into something you don't want to do. Romance and personal improvements are highlighted. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Caution will be necessary when planning and initiating what you want to do. Gains will only be made if your plans are thought-out and executed without going over budget. Take care of unfinished business, documents and personal papers. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Stick to the truth. Don't embellish an incident, or you will have to answer for the misinformation you share. Focus on what you can do to help others, not bring them down. Events, socializing and networking are favored. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't shy away from what you believe and want to see happen. You may face opposition, but if you believe in someone or something, stand your ground and do your best to resolve matters without getting into a no-win situation. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Change is heading your way. Money can be made, contracts negotiated, and a higher position acquired. A high-energy approach will make others take note, and offers will follow. A settlement, gift or offering is within reach. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Put your reputation, status and position first. Don't let what someone else does cost you emotionally or financially. Temptation will lead to taking a risk. Don't interfere in other people's affairs. Stick to what you know, and don't reveal secrets. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are charming, unique and persuasive. You are progressive and trendy.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	7			2			6	
3			7		5	4		9
	8							
	2						5	
7				3				6
	3						4	
							7	
6		1	2		9			3
	9			1			2	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

5	4	9	1	3	7	6	8	2
3	6	2	4	5	8	1	7	9
7	1	8	6	2	9	3	5	4
6	9	4	5	7	2	8	3	1
2	7	5	8	1	3	4	9	6
1	8	3	9	4	6	5	2	7
8	5	6	2	9	4	7	1	3
4	2	7	3	8	1	9	6	5
9	3	1	7	6	5	2	4	8

Pit Tally Level ★★★ 11/09

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

CRUISE SHIP NAMES **Solution: 11 letters**

S	S	A	A	D	V	E	N	T	U	R	E	E	P	N
C	S	D	L	A	M	O	R	E	L	L	A	C	O	I
H	E	E	A	L	I	B	E	R	T	Ⓨ	E	I	E	A
O	T	P	C	T	E	N	I	D	Ⓚ	I	L	T	S	T
O	N	I	A	N	S	B	R	Ⓢ	A	A	A	S	I	P
N	U	V	R	R	I	I	A	O	E	C	T	L	A	A
E	O	M	M	I	A	R	M	S	C	A	I	O	G	C
R	C	A	I	A	P	D	P	A	I	I	O	S	E	G
C	N	R	Y	E	N	S	I	D	A	O	N	U	U	E
I	N	F	I	N	I	T	Y	S	N	L	R	U	T	M
F	N	A	M	L	A	I	H	O	E	O	P	E	R	A
I	A	W	R	P	R	I	D	E	D	P	M	O	D	R
C	M	A	R	I	N	E	R	A	M	A	L	A	N	C
A	E	V	I	S	T	A	M	A	R	A	W	N	I	O
P	S	E	R	O	T	A	G	I	V	A	N	N	W	D

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Adventure, Alma, Amistad, Amorella, Anthem, Captain, Countess, Dawn, Diamond Princess, Dine, Disney, Elation, Eurodam, Fram, Gem, Infinity, Isabella, Liberty, Marco, Mariner, Musica, Names, Navigator, Opera, Ovation, Pacific, Paradise, Pearl, Poesia, Polo, Pride, Schooner, Sealion, Sky, Solstice, Spirit, Unicorn, Valor, Vistamar, Wave, Wind

Yesterday's Answer: Exclamation Point

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• 3-Liner	**$15**	**$30**
• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$45**

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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

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Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

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www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in classified section

WAREHOUSE FOR RENT

San Vicente	**2,500 sq.ft.** (can be used for barracks)
Dan Dan	**3,600 sq.ft.** (can be used for barracks)
Tanapag	**20,000 sq.m.** (Land) **5,000 - 50,000 sq.ft.** (Ware House)
Beach Road	**1,000 - 15,000 sq.ft.** (Commercial Space)

Please call 483-3364 for more information

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Owner of Drinking Water Refilling and City Water delivery company is selling the business to serious buyer.

If interested, please contact: 483-1575

Unicorn Corporation

HOLLOW BLOCKS FOR SALE

4"	$1.10 each
6"	$1.20 each
8"	$1.30 each

Located at Lower Base
Listed price is for pick-up only
Please call
483-3364 or 322-3364
for more information

VACANCY ANNOUCEMENT

(1) DIRECTOR OF OPERATION

Please drop off your resume during office hours
Monday thru Friday; 9 a.m.to 6 p.m.
We are located in Garapan across
Zen Teppanyaki, next to Country House

To request for detailed job description,
please send email to jointmarketingspn@gmail.com
or contacts@saipanhouse.com

JIANG ZHENG INVESTMENT GROUP
PMB 149, P.O. BOX 10001
SAIPAN, MP 96950

C Pacific Corporation
dba Five Star Builders

For Immediate Hiring

50 all construction related skills
(Mason, Carpenter, Plumber, Electrician, Painter, etc)

Salary Range: $7.25 to $10.00/hr
Requirements: 5-10 years experience in construction.

Interested applicants may submit their resume at our office in San Antonio across PIC new water slide or email to kay.s@fivestarb.com.
For more information, please call 789-1005

Seventh-day Adventist Clinic

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

ONE (1) - DENTAL THERAPIST
(SOC 51-9081 - Dental Laboratory Technicians)

DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES:
Duties performed under the indirect supervision of a U.S. Licensed Dentist:

- Oral health instruction and disease prevention education, including nutritional counseling and dietary analysis;
- Preliminary charting of the oral cavity;
- Taking intra-oral and extra-oral photographs;
- Exposing and developing radiographs;
- Prophylaxis or removal of stains, accretions, or deposits and polishing of the coronal portion of the teeth above the cement enamel junction (CEJ);
- Application of topical preventive or prophylactic agents, including fluoride varnishes; and
- Supervision, scheduling of assignment/cases, training and guidance of dental assistants.

Duties Performed under the direct supervision of a U.S. Licensed Dentist (Hours spread throughout the workday):

- Pit and fissure sealants, but not fissurotomies, and primary and permanent teeth;
- Pulp vitality testing;
- Application of desensitizing agents on primary or permanent teeth;
- Placement, shaping, polishing, and adjustment of restorative materials of filings on primary or permanent teeth after tooth preparation is completed by a licensed dentist;
- Administrative and monitoring of nitrous oxide (with proof of certification from a Board-approved program);
- Fabrication and cementation of temporary crowns on permanent teeth;
- Placement and removal of space maintainers on primary teeth;
- Suture removal and dressing changes;
- Impressions for removal prosthetics;
- Tissue conditioning and soft reline for removable prosthetics;
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LeBron's near triple-double powers Lakers past Wolves

LOS ANGELES (AP)—LeBron James had 24 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists, and Kyle Kuzma scored six of his 21 points in the final minutes of the Los Angeles Lakers' 114-110 victory over the Minnesota Timberwolves on Wednesday night.

Josh Hart scored 21 points and Brandon Ingram added 20 for the Lakers, who avenged a loss at Minnesota nine days earlier with a tenacious finish at Staples Center.

Kuzma's fourth 3-pointer put the Lakers up 111-104 with 1:51 to play for their biggest lead of the night. Derrick Rose promptly hit back-to-back 3-pointers for the Wolves, trimming the lead to one with 1:06 left.

Kuzma hit one of two free throws with 9.5 seconds left after two huge offensive rebounds by Tyson Chandler, who had nine boards in an auspicious Lakers debut. Rose missed a 3 under heavy defensive pressure from Chandler, and Hart hit two free throws to seal it.

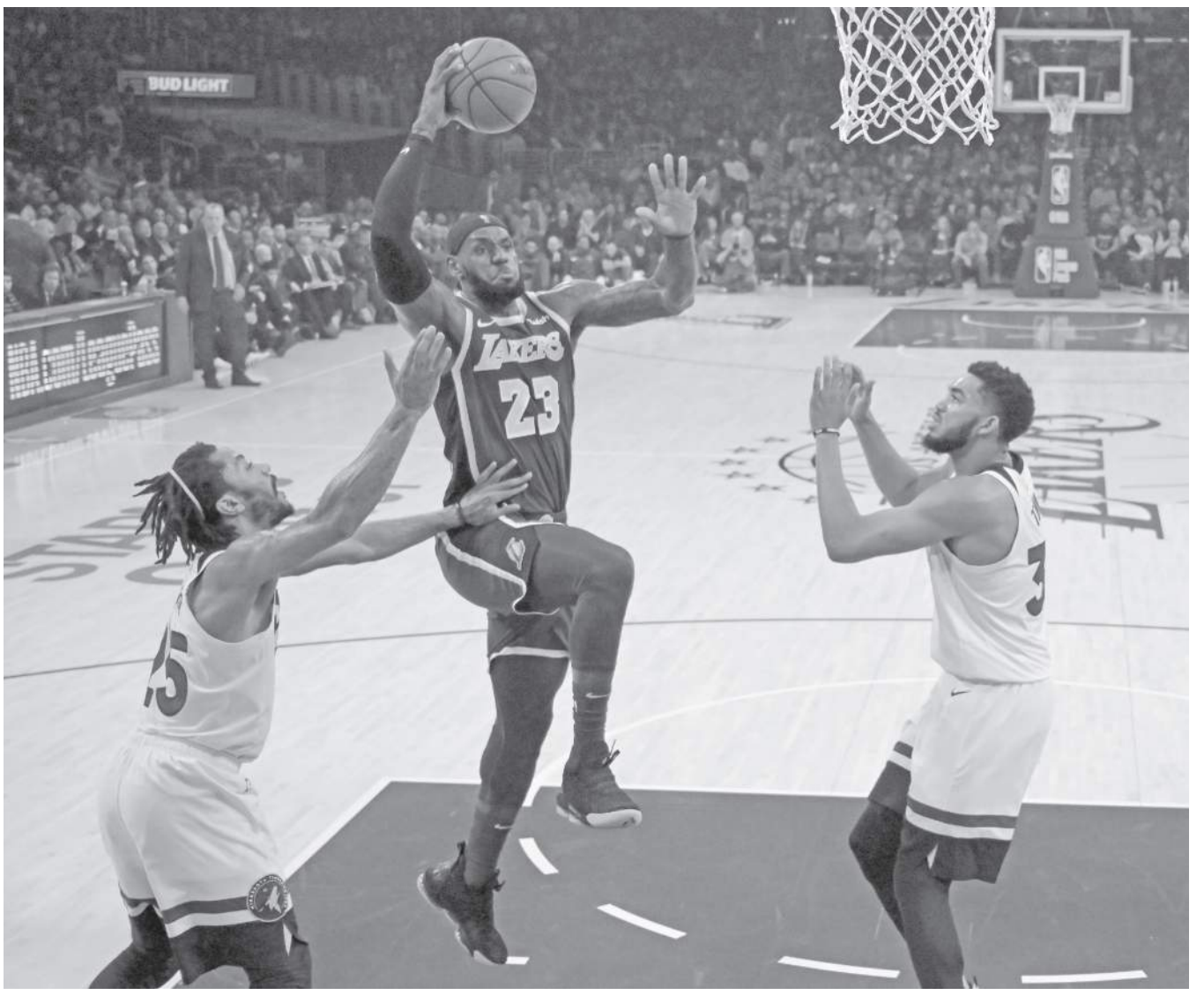
Rose scored 31 points and Jimmy Butler added 24 for the Timberwolves, who dropped to 0-7 on the road this season with their fourth consecutive loss overall. Minnesota had won five straight over the Lakers.

James fell just shy of his 75th triple-double, but scored nine points in the fourth quarter.

Chandler signed with his hometown team on Tuesday, shortly after the 18-year veteran big man reached a buy-out agreement with Phoenix. He immediately provided defense, rebounding and hard picks—all areas of need for the Lakers— while playing a surprising 23 minutes.

Minnesota came out in an offensive groove during its second straight game at Staples Center following Monday's loss to the Clippers.

All five Wolves starters reached double figures in the first half while hitting 66 percent of their shots. Rose and Wiggins hit three 3-pointers apiece and all five starters contributed to an 11-for-17 performance beyond the arc, tying the franchise record for 3s in a first half.



AP
Los Angeles Lakers forward LeBron James, center, shoots as Minnesota Timberwolves guard Derrick Rose, left, and center Karl-Anthony Towns defend during the first half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Nov. 7, 2018, in Los Angeles.

Raptors 114, Kings 105

In Sacramento, Kawhi Leonard had 25 points and 11 rebounds in his return from an ankle injury, and the Toronto Raptors beat the Sacramento Kings to improve the NBA's best record to 11-1.

Pascal Siakam scored 21 points, Serge Ibaka had 14 points and 14 rebounds, and Kyle Lowry added 16 points and eight assists for the Raptors.

Toronto has won five straight since its lone loss this season at Milwaukee on Oct. 29.

Leonard sat out the previous two games and got off to a sluggish start early against the Kings before helping Toronto pull away.

The two-time All-Star scored 10 points in the second quarter and 10 in the third, including a soaring, one-handed dunk through traffic. Leonard also made a pivotal 3-pointer in the fourth after Sacramento had pulled to 106-99.

Toronto has won three straight against the Kings.

Willie Cauley-Stein and Buddy Hield scored 24 points apiece for Sacramento. De'Aaron Fox added 20 points, and second overall draft pick Marvin Bagley III had 13.

Pelicans 107, Bulls 98

In New Orleans, Anthony Davis had 32 points, 15 rebounds and four blocks in his best game since spraining his right elbow nearly two weeks ago, and the New Orleans Pelicans ended a six-game skid with a over the Chicago Bulls.

After missing four of his first five shots, Davis hit his next eight, including two 3s and a two-handed reverse alley-oop jam, while on his way to his first 30-plus point game since New Orleans beat the Los Angeles Clippers on Oct. 23.

Jrue Holiday had 17 points, 10 rebounds and nine assists while being guarded primarily by brother Justin. Julius Randle and Wesley Johnson each scored 12 points for New Orleans.

Zach LaVine scored 22 and Jabari Parker had 20 points and 13 rebounds for Chicago, which has dropped five of six games. Justin Holiday and Wendell Carter Jr. each had 17 points, and Carter had 11 rebounds.

Thunder 95, Cavaliers 86

In Cleveland, Dennis Schroder scored a season-high 28 points in replacing injured star Russell Westbrook and Oklahoma City beat Cleveland.

Westbrook sprained his left ankle Monday, but the Thunder withstood Cleveland's fourth-quarter run without the two-time MVP to win its sixth straight game after starting the season 0-4.

Cleveland (1-10) rallied from an 11-point deficit early in the fourth quarter to go ahead. Oklahoma City led 78-67 before the Cavaliers went on a 13-0 run. J.R. Smith and Kyle Korver each hit two 3-pointers and the Cavaliers led 80-78 with 7:02 remaining. Alex Abrines' 3-pointer from the corner gave the Thunder the lead for good with 4:31 to play.

Paul George added 18 points for Oklahoma City. Cleveland rookie point guard Collin Sexton made his first career start, with George Hill out with a sore right shoulder. Sexton had 15 points in a career-high 42 minutes.

Heats 95, Spurs 88

In Miami, Hassan Whiteside had 29 points, 20 rebounds and an NBA season-high nine blocked shots, and Miami snapped a four-year drought against San Antonio.

Wayne Ellington scored 20 points, and Justise Winslow added 16. Miami was down to an eight-man rotation for the second half because of injuries and Dwyane Wade missing the game for personal reasons.

The Heat had dropped their last nine regular-season games to the Spurs—and 11 consecutive games overall in the series, when factoring in the 2014 NBA Finals. Patty Mills had 20 points for San Antonio.

Pistons 103, Magic 96

In Orlando, Andre Drummond had 23 points and 19 rebounds and Detroit beat Orlando to snap a five-game losing streak.

Blake Griffin added 20 points, Reggie Jackson had 15, and Stanley Johnson 13. Evan Fournier led Orlando with 27 points, and D.J. Augustin had 16.

Fournier hit three straight shots and Aaron Gordon added a dunk to pull Orlando to 94-93 with 2:58 left. Griffin made two free throws to start a 9-0 run that Jackson finished with a 3-pointer and a layup.

76ers 100, Pacers 94

In Indiapolis, Joel Embiid scored 20 points and Ben Simmons nearly had a triple double to lead Philadelphia past Indiana for its first road victory of the season.

Simmons had 16 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists to help Philadelphia end a five-game losing streak on the road. Indiana's Victor Oladipo scored a season-high 36 points, and Domantas Sabonis had 16 points and 11 rebounds.

Jazz 117, Mavericks 102

In Salt Lake City, Donovan Mitchell scored 23 points in his return from an ankle injury and Utah beat Dallas to end a four-game skid.

Mitchell also had seven assists and five rebounds, and Rudy Gobert had 17 points, 10 rebounds and four blocked shots. Alec Burks added 18 points off the bench. Utah earned its first home win of the season after opening with four straight home losses for the first time since 1974-75.

Luka Doncic led the Mavericks with 24 points.

Knicks 112, Hawks 107

In Atlanta, Tim Hardaway Jr. scored 27 of his 34 points in the second half, reserve Enes Kanter added 17 points and 11 rebounds, and New York beat Atlanta.

In a matchup of rebuilding clubs, Allonzo Trier finished with 16 points and Noah Vonleh had 11 points and 13 rebounds to help New York snap a two-game skid.

Omari Spellman scored 18 points for the Hawks. They have lost two straight and six of seven.

Grizzlies 89, Nuggets 87

In Memphis, Marc Gasol scored 20 points, including the go-ahead free throws with 4.6 seconds remaining, to lead Memphis past Denver.

The Nuggets had a chance after Gasol's foul shots, but Nikola Jokic's 3-point attempt bounced off the rim and Denver's rebound tip also was off the mark. Denver had won five straight.

Jaren Jackson Jr. also had 20 points for Memphis. Gary Harris led the Nuggets with 20.

Mayweather calls off bout with Japanese kickboxer

TOKYO (AP)—Floyd Mayweather has called off his bout with Japanese kickboxer Tenshin Nasukawa and says he was "blindsided" by promoters of the proposed New Year's Eve event.

Mayweather posted a statement on Instagram saying: "First and foremost, I want it to be clear that I, Floyd Mayweather, never agreed to an official bout with Tenshin Nasukawa."

Mayweather attended a news conference in Tokyo on Monday, when the Dec. 31 fight against the 20-year-old kickboxer was announced.

"Once I arrived to the press conference, my team and I were completely derailed by the new direction this event was going and we should have put a stop to it immediately," Mayweather posted. "I want to sincerely apologize to my fans for the very misleading information that was announced during this press conference and I can assure you that I too was completely blindsided by the arrangements that were being made without my consent nor approval."

The 41-year-old Mayweather is 50-0 in his boxing career. He has never fought professionally under MMA rules, although he did have a lucrative win over MMA fighter Conor McGregor last year.

Japanese promoter the RIZIN Fighting Federation announced promotion on Monday but said the rules and the weight class had not been determined.

Saints all-in on title push, sign wide receiver Dez

METAIRIE, La. (AP) — Dez Bryant has found a new team, agreeing to contract teams with the New Orleans Saints.

The former Dallas Cowboys wide receiver, who has been looking for an NFL home since becoming a free agent, will join one of the NFL's top offenses in New Orleans. A person familiar with the decision confirmed the move on Wednesday, speaking to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the roster move has not been announced.

The 30-year-old Bryant spent his first eight years in the NFL with Dallas and last season caught 69 passes for 838 yards and six touchdowns, including a 50-yard scoring play, for the Cowboys.

However, his professional reputation has been marred at times by public confrontations with coaches and teammates during games and practices.

Seeking salary cap relief, the Cowboys released Bryant after last season with two years remaining on the receiver's five-year, $70 million contract.

Last season was Bryant's best since he caught 88 passes for 1,320 yards and 16 TDs in 2014, which at the time was his third consecutive season with at least 1,200 yards receiving. He signed his last contract right after that but has not approached that level of production since—a central reason Dallas released him in April.

Bryant was among several receivers to work out for the Saints on Tuesday. He'd previously met with Cleveland and Baltimore.

AP

In this Nov. 19, 2017, file photo, Philadelphia Eagles cornerback Ronald Darby (41) defends as Dallas Cowboys' Dez Bryant gains extra yardage after catching a pass in the first half of an NFL football game in Arlington, Texas.

New Orleans (7-1), which has won seven straight and leads the NFC South Division, didn't necessarily need another receiver.

Led by record-setting quarterback Drew Brees, the Saints rank seventh on offense overall, averaging 402.2 yards per game, and seventh in passing, averaging 289.9 yards. At the same time, New Orleans is without deep threat Ted Ginn Jr., who is currently on injured reserve and won't be eligible to return until the final few weeks of the season, if he's ready by then.

The Saints also have yet to receive consistent production from Cameron Meredith, a former Chicago receiving leader who was acquired in free agency, but who also is trying to come back from major knee surgery that wiped out his 2017 campaign.

Bryant's return to the NFL with the Saints means he could play against his former club in a few weeks. The Saints play at Dallas on Nov. 29.

New Orleans also has two games remaining against division rival Carolina (6-2).

"The nice thing is we don't play them until December, so we will get an opportunity to see what they are doing with him," Panthers coach Ron Rivera said shortly after hearing about Bryant's agreement with the Saints. "He's a good player. He's a guy that has shown he can go up and get the football."

Defensive end Irvin to Falcons

In Georgia, the Atlanta Falcons made a move to bolster their lackluster pass rush by agreeing to a one-year deal with defensive end Bruce Irvin on Wednesday, reuniting the veteran with coach Dan Quinn.

Irvin, cut by the Oakland Raiders on Saturday, became a free agent after clearing waivers on Tuesday with $3.8 million remaining on his contract. The Falcons play at Cleveland on Sunday.

Irvin, 31, is an Atlanta native. He celebrated his return home by posting on his Twitter account "Man it's time! You can't put a price on the chance for me to play for my people and city! It's bigger than money!"

Irvin was expected to arrive in Atlanta on Wednesday night and join practice on Thursday. Quinn said Irvin will play against Cleveland.

The Falcons rank 27th in the league with 17 sacks. Takk McKinley has a team-leading 5½ sacks, but Vic Beasley has only one. Beasley led the league with 15½ sacks in 2016.

The Falcons hope Irvin adds new punch to the pass rush.

"He's definitely a big addition to our team," said defensive tackle Grady Jarrett, who has three sacks. "As a player and as a person, we know the personality he plays with matches what we want to portray or have up front, that dog mentality. We're ready to go hunt."

Quinn said the homecoming and the chance to play in a familiar scheme were motivating factors for Irvin.

Agulto, Rojas lead scorers in Division A

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Paire Football Club's Daniel Agulto and TanHoldings FC's John Michael Rojas' three goals apiece lead Division A's 2018 Fall M-League.

The league, which is on hold after Super Typhoon Yutu hit Saipan and Tinian late last month, is at the early stage of the season and will not resume anytime soon, as Northern Mariana Islands Football Association has yet to decide what to do with the remaining games in the competition.

Agulto had his three goals in Paire's 8-1 demolition of Matansa FC, while Rojas scored a pair in their 5-2 victory over Korean Football Association on Saipan last Oct. 22.

Seven other players from Division A teams delivered more than one goal after playing in the first two matches of the season. Paire's Chris Nelson, Brad Ruszala, and Joe Miller have two apiece, the same number that TanHoldings' Mark Esalan and Razeff Altamirano, and Kanoa's Jether Yobech and Ronnel Ocanada have.

Meanwhile, Sun Palace's King Lun Wong has the most goals so far in Division B with four. Shirley's Jack Phan is in second place with three, while Pacific Islands Club's Albert Bergancia and Sun Palace's Young Ha Hwang have two each.

Sun Palace is on top of the team standings with its 2-0-0 win-draw-loss record, while Shirley's has a 1-1-1 slate. The CNMI Women's National Team and PIC complete the field and own 1-1-0 and 0-0-3 slates, respectively.

In Division A, Paire and TanHoldings are tied for first with similar 2-0-0 record, while MP United is ranked third with its 1-0-0 records. Kanoa (1-0-1), Old B Bank (0-0-2), Matansa (0-0-2), and KFAS (0-0-1) rounded out the team standings.

RACE

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was a Grade 3 event and had a competitive field, as most of the participants were frequent figures in the circuit.

"All of the competitors I faced were pretty fit. The skill level varied. If you've been playing consistently since you're a kid, or a teenager, you bring a slightly different skill set to the match, maybe a more complete one. The players I faced in the semis and finals had been playing since they were kids, while the previous three rounds I think had learned tennis as adults," said Race.

The Micronesian Games multiple-medalist was pitted against Hong Kong's Chuen-Shu Hung in the finals, while his semis foe was France's Eric Thorel. Hung was seeded No. 3 in the 26-player field and Race defeated two more ranked players (No. 2 Vladimir Kokorev of Russia and No. 6 David Benwell of Canada), while the CNMI player's first round opponent was the unseeded Chris Pit of Hong Kong.

Race was unranked in the tournament, but still admitted feeling the pressure of producing good results.

"I was committed to just doing my best and letting the chips fall where they may, which I think for everyone is the best approach for a tournament and the way I coach. Of course, I didn't want to go all the way over to Hong Kong and lose in the first round so there was a bit of pressure there," Race said.

"You always still feel a few butterflies before a match which I think is pretty funny at this stage of my career, but I think it just shows that you care about winning," he added.

As Race moved all the way to the title game, the pressure mounted, especially that he was going up against a very competitive player.

"Hung, my finals opponent, was someone who takes his game seriously and does regular training. The finals was definitely the toughest match. My opponent was the fittest, fastest, and most skilled. I trailed, 0-3, in the first set and had to stay mentally positive as well as adjust my game to be more aggressive to come back and win, 6-4. There were a lot of close games in the second set and I had some chances to win a bit more easily," the NMSA Coach of the Year awardee said.

"I guess I was feeling some pressure in closing out the match because I missed two forehand approach shots that I normally wouldn't miss and lost that game to let Hung keep the second set close. Many of the points were long with a lot of running and I was starting to get tired, so I was glad to be able to finish off the match in the second set, 6-3, and not have to go to a third," Race said.

He added that playing in the Hong Kong event and winning it was a great experience at this time of his career and he hopes to compete anew when opportunities knock.

"Many of the players in the tournament were already retired and enjoy traveling to these events around the world. I'm still working every day with our junior players so I won't be following them, but I do look forward to joining the occasional tournaments. I still love to compete and it was really fun to play against some guys my own age," the well-respected coach in the CNMI said.

"I've played maybe 200 tournaments in my career. I don't really have much in the way of goals still to achieve as a player. At 28 or even 38 matches were deadly serious for me. I'll just see what comes along that fits into my schedule and would be fun to combine a trip with my wife, Heidi, or friends," Race added.

MARIANAS

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regards the Marianas Cup as an important chance to enhance the relationship with Marianas tour industry partners," Concepcion added.

Hyatt Regency Saipan provided complimentary accommodation and breakfast for the tournament participants from Oct. 11 to 14 and held a dinner banquet on Oct. 12 at the recently opened Regency Ballroom. MVA deputy managing director Judy C. Torres welcomed the participants at the dinner, where the MVA also made a brief presentation about the Korean travel market and prospects for The Marianas travel industry.

Laolao Bay Golf & Resort hosted a lunch at the Grill, Coral Ocean Golf Resort had supplied lunch at Sushi Bounce, T Galleria by DFS had prizes for participants and tournament winners, and Korean restaurant Sura hosted a farewell dinner banquet on Oct. 13. ***(MVA)***

NMIVA

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the Commonwealth Coalition of Private Schools Association Volleyball League and the PSS Interscholastic Volleyball League, which fortunately concluded its middle school and girls high school tournaments before Yutu slammed Saipan. A four-person beach volleyball event also took place at the Hyatt Regency Saipan sand court a few weeks before the Category 5 typhoon hit the island. For off-island events, NMIVA sent a men's team to Yap for the 2018 Micronesian Games held last July.

Meanwhile, Peterka said NMIVA had already reached out to Oceania Zonal Volleyball Association and the Fédération Internationale de Volleyball to ask for support, as the local federation joins the rest of the community in bouncing back from Yutu.

Harper rejects $300M offer from Nationals

CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP)—The Washington Nationals' contract offer to All-Star outfielder Bryce Harper that he rejected five weeks ago was for 10 years, $300 million.

The offer, which would have paid Harper an average of $30 million a year, is no longer on the table, according to one official. The deal, offered on Sept. 26, expired once the Nationals no longer had exclusive negotiating rights last week.

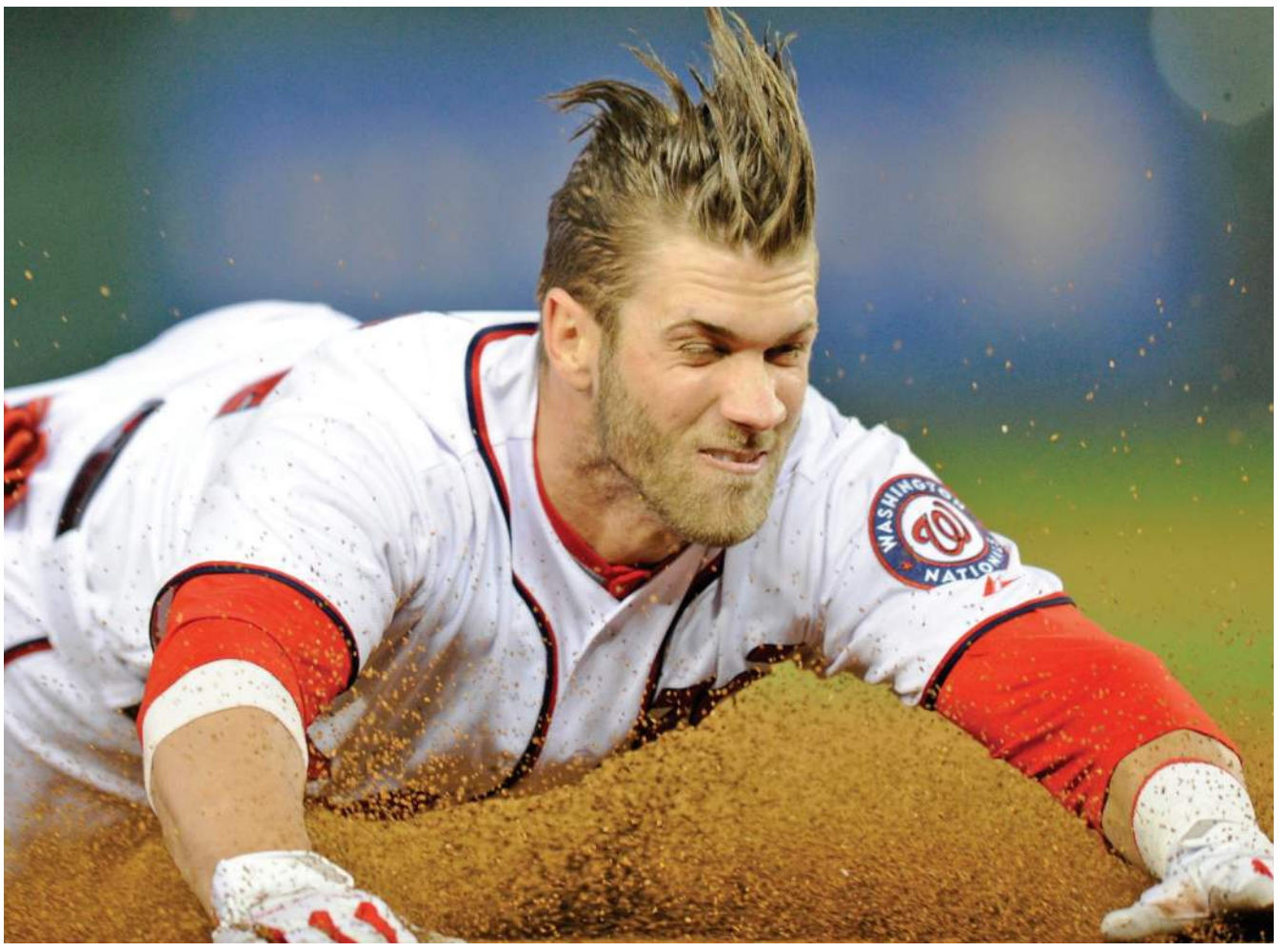
Talks can be resumed, of course, but the Nationals still are trying to sign at least one starting pitcher and a catcher in free agency and don't want to be left without anyone filling any of their voids if Harper departs for another team.

The contract proposal to Harper was second in total dollars only to Giancarlo Stanton's 13-year, $325 million deal that he originally signed with the Miami Marlins. Stanton, now with the New York Yankees, has $270 million remaining over the next 10 years.

Los Angeles Angels center fielder Mike Trout, considered the finest all-around player in the game, earned a Major League leading $34.083 million last season, but his six-year, $144.5 million extension expires after the 2020 season.

Harper, 26, and infielder Manny Machado, each are pursuing contracts in excess of $300 million this winter. Harper also is expected to be pursued by the Philadelphia Phillies, San Francisco Giants and St. Louis Cardinals.

If the Nationals don't re-sign Harper, who has been with the organization his entire career, they will go with an outfield of Juan Soto, Adam Eaton and Victor Robles.



AP

Washington Nationals' Bryce Harper slides home during the 10th inning of a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals, Monday, Sept. 3, 2018, in Washington.

"I'm comfortable with the alternative," GM Mike Rizzo told reporters at his media session Tuesday, "but I'm uncomfortable with the statement that we're a better team without him."

Harper at first base for Yankees?

If the Yankees don't have the space for Harper in the outfield, perhaps they can find room at first base.

Harper's agent, Scott Boras, said on SiriusXM radio that Harper could play first base for whichever team he signs with. While the Yankees' outfield is full, the team could use an upgrade at first base since Greg Bird and Luke Voit may not be strong options.

Yankees general manager Brian Cashman, who has avoided commenting on free agents, did not reveal if the Yankees would consider Harper for first base.

"Do I think Bryce Harper can play first base? I don't know," Cashman said. "Obviously he's extremely talented and athletic."

Cashman has been flooded with questions surrounding Harper and Manny Machado since the Yankees have the payroll flexibility to add either or both stars.

"We'll assess everything in the market place and how it might fit us," he said.

Meanwhile, Atlanta Braves shortstop Dansby Swanson is expected to be ready for spring training following surgery on his left wrist.

The Braves said Wednesday Swanson had a procedure on Monday to remove a "loose body" in the wrist.

The 24-year-old Swanson hit .238 with 14 home runs and 59 RBI in 136 games last season.

Mattingly, Molina set to lead MLB All-Star tour of Japan

TOKYO (AP)—All-Star catcher Yadier Molina hopes to throw out some speedy runners. Don Mattingly looks forward to seeing Japan's national team.

Mattingly and Molina are in Japan as part of a Major League Baseball All-Star tour that features six games against Japan.

The series begins on Friday with three games on consecutive nights at Tokyo Dome followed by one game in Hiroshima on Nov. 13 and two games in Nagoya on Nov. 14 and 15.

Mattingly was a coach with the New York Yankees when Hideki Matsui played there, and got to know Ichiro Suzuki with the Miami Marlins.

But this will be his first experience managing against a Japanese team.

"I've been able to work with Hideki in New York and had Ichiro in Miami," Mattingly said Wednesday. "The culture and the love for baseball is something that is fun to watch, the work ethic of the Japanese players and the fundamentals seem so solid."

In addition to St. Louis Cardinals' catcher Molina, the MLB squad includes three other 2018 All-Stars; Seattle Mariners outfielder Mitch Haniger, Marlins catcher J.T. Realmuto, and infielder Eugenio Suarez of the Cincinnati Reds.

Molina, who won a ninth Gold Glove award this season, is one of three catchers on the tour along with Realmuto and Robinson Chirinos of the Texas Rangers.

The two leading contenders for 2018 National League Rookie of the Year are also part of the tour— Juan Soto of the Washington Nationals and Ronald Acuna Jr., of the Atlanta Braves.

MLB will return to Japan next spring with a two-game opening series between the Oakland Athletics and Seattle Mariners at Tokyo Dome, marking the fifth time MLB has opened a season in Tokyo and first since 2012, when the A's and Mariners also played

FIFA warns World Cup ban for players in breakaway league

ZURICH (AP)—Soccer's biggest names would be banned from the World Cup if they played in a breakaway European Super League, FIFA President Gianni Infantino said Wednesday.

Infantino, speaking to a small group of reporters at FIFA headquarters, said the governing body would punish players at clubs like Barcelona, Manchester City and Bayern Munich if they left soccer's organized structure to form a privately-owned league.

"Either you are in or you are out," Infantino said, listing the World Cup, European Championship and national leagues as competitions that players from breakaway teams could be excluded from. "This includes everything."

Talk of a long-threatened super league was revived Friday when German magazine Der Spiegel published confidential documents and emails from clubs and soccer bodies in its "Football Leaks" series.

Real Madrid was revealed to be working with consultants on a 16-team Super League to kick off in 2021—effectively replacing the Champions League and outside the control of UEFA.

The plan called for 11 storied clubs from Spain, England, Germany, Italy and France to get ownership stakes and risk-free Super League membership for 20 years, with five more clubs invited to play.

The breakaway from soccer's historic hierarchy—FIFA, the six continental bodies and 211 national federations—would allow FIFA to ban players from the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

"The idea is if you break away, you break away. You don't keep one foot in and one foot out," FIFA deputy secretary general Alasdair Bell said. "That would be the general approach we would follow, but of course lawyers can debate this for a long time."

Both Infantino and Bell were long-time staffers at UEFA, which has steadily changed Champions League prize money and entry rules to favor top clubs and stall breakaway threats.

"This is the history of the last 20 years," said Infantino, who has clashed this year with European soccer officials and club leaders over FIFA's proposed Club World Cup project, which is funded by Japanese investor SoftBank.

Infantino said his plan—potentially featuring 12 European clubs in a 24-team lineup, and worth a promised $3 billion every four years—could head off a private closed league.

"The Club World Cup is the answer to any attempt to think even about any sort of breakaway leagues," he said.

Infantino insisted while the plan would be lucrative for clubs taking part, it also kept money in the soccer family. FIFA would use 25 percent of revenue to share globally.

"If the price to pay is to give proper revenues to a club participating in a Club World Cup but this allows us to ... give $1 million to Haiti who has nothing, or to Mongolia who has three time zones but only two football pitches, well then we should be I think doing that," he said.

A FIFA task force will assess a revamp of competitions, including a new event for all national teams played every two years. A decision is expected in March when Infantino chairs a FIFA Council meeting in Miami.

He also believes the latest threat will calm.

"People are still quite reasonable," Infantino said. "I trust certainly the club owners and presidents to be able to have a discussion."

Also Wednesday, Infantino addressed the "Football Leaks" documents that showed him being pressured by wealthy clubs during his time as UEFA's top administrator to ensure they avoided a Champions League ban for breaking "Financial Fair Play" rules designed to curb overspending.

Some critics suggested Infantino overreached his duty when independent panels were investigating and judging clubs such as Manchester City and Paris Saint-Germain.

"We were doing our job and saved the system, and we saved European club football," Infantino said.

In further "Football Leaks" fallout, Infantino said it was unfair that a childhood friend, Rinaldo Arnold, was under scrutiny. A special counsel is assessing if Arnold's work as a regional prosecutor in Switzerland is in conflict with private invitations to games from Infantino and their professional contacts.

"I think there are much more serious issues that can be looked at," the FIFA president said.

LeBron's near triple-double powers Lakers past Wolves

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Race gets world ranking

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jeff Race, seen here returning a shot during his and Juncheol Hwang mixed up doubles game against Vincent Tudela and Nason Wessel in the 2018 Coconut Tennis Classic held in February at the American Memorial Park tennis courts, got world ranking points after winning in an ITF Seniors event in Hong Kong last month.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Better late than never.

This was the case for CNMI Sports Hall of Famer Jeff Race, who got world ranking points following his title win in the singles play of the Hong Kong ITF Seniors National Tournament 2018 held last month at the Victoria Park Tennis Court.

"I think it's kind of funny to have my first ITF world ranking at 58, but when I compete these days I'm more focused on just trying to play well and have fun," said Race, who did not drop a single set in the over 55 age group competition en route to sweeping his five opponents and topping his first ITF Seniors tournament.

The CNMI Junior National Team coach earned 80 world rankings points for his title conquest in Hong Kong and is ranked No. 421 as of Nov. 5. The Hong Kong ITF Seniors

See RACE on Page 26

NMIVA may pass up on Pacific Games

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Saipan Southern High School player receives a serve at the backline during their game against Saipan International School in the 2018-2019 PSS Interscholastic Volleyball League, which is one of the competitions Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association supports.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

After Super Typhoon Yutu struck Saipan and damaged majority of the sports facilities here, Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association may have to pass up on the 2019 Pacific Games in Apia, Samoa.

"I would say it's highly doubtful at this point, but we would try our hardest to make it possible," NMIVA president Lauri Peterka said.

NMIVA, during the previous Northern Marianas Sports Association meetings, said the group is interested in sending teams to next year's Pacific Games that will be held from July 7 to 20. Initially, NMIVA informed NMSA during last month's meeting that it will have men's and women's beach volleyball teams and will also field a men's squad in the indoor competition.

However, after the super typhoon hit the island, it will be very challenging for NMIVA to have players and resources available for the Mini Games, as Saipan is now focused on recovery efforts. NMIVA, with its remaining resources, will instead focus on local events and the 2021 Mini Games that the CNMI will be hosting.

"It's more likely that we will focus our resources locally to keep expanding our player base and try to reinvest to get ready for 2021 (Pacific Mini Games) here on Saipan," Peterka said.

NMIVA coordinates with school competitions, such as

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Marianas Cup 2018 touts golfing on Saipan

Marianas Cup 2018, the fifth in the series organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority, was held on two courses on Saipan last Oct. 12 and 13, with 26 Marianas tourism industry partners.

"Marianas Cup 2018 is an annual opportunity to increase awareness of Marianas' golf courses and hotel facilities and introduce to the Korean market the destination's natural beauty, golf resorts and facilities," said MVA managing director Christopher A. Concepcion.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Golfers pose for a commemorative photo at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort on Oct. 13 during the Marianas Cup 2018 organized by the Marianas Visitors Authority for industry representatives from Korea.

Although courses were affected by Super Typhoon Yutu that hit Saipan and Tinian in late October, the Greg Norman-designed course at Laolao Bay Golf & Resort has since fully recovered, providing all regular services, including the full west course and nine holes on the east course for about the next two weeks. Meanwhile, Coral Ocean Golf Resort will be closed until early 2019.

"We are pleased to report that Laolao Bay Golf & Resort, Kingfisher Golf Links, and Saipan Country Club have all bounced back rapidly from the recent typhoon and are back in business. We look forward to the return of golfers when the Francisco C. Ada Saipan International Airport opens on Nov. 15," Concepcion added.

Over 30 other guests from 26 industry representatives participated in the tournament event, including GS club members representing hotels, travel agents, tour operators and T Galleria by DFS.

"All participants were greatly satisfied with the tournament event, and the MVA

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